

FOR ALUMNI OF  
THE ACADEMIC  
CAMPUS OF  
VIRGINIA  
COMMONWEALTH  
UNIVERSITY

# SEATTLE VIRGINIA CONNECTIONS

SUMMER 2000

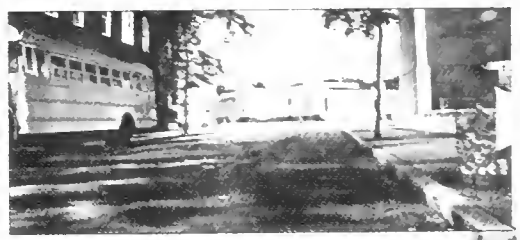
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*Alumni  
take VCU  
to the four  
corners of  
the globe*

*doing  
a world  
of good.*



## "AT HOME"

VCU alumni have a home at last. On May 9, 2000 the VCU Alumni Association officially opened the Richard T. Robertson Alumni House.

After more than a century serving first as a private residence and later as a doctor's office, apartments-and home to many RPI and VCU students, it's altogether fitting that 924 West Franklin Street has a new life as the reflection of VCU's past and present.

Everything about the three-story brownstone's design reflects its role linking old with new. The neo-Victorian décor of the first floor recalls the University's earliest days, an effect heightened by portraits of several of the school's founders, on long-term loan from the Anderson Gallery. Under the guidance of Gary Inman '93MA/A, many of the special restoration touches-

the elegant floor canvas greeting visitors in the entry, restored ceramic tiles around the building's many fireplaces, gilded and hand-painted French chairs, and the evocative mural in the stair hall-were created by alumni.

Balancing this respect for the past are modern conveniences including handicapped entrance ramp and elevator, efficient association staff space also designed by a VCU alumna, **Cameron Stiles '81BFA**, and cabling linking the building to the University's data network.

*The next issue of Shafer Court Connections will feature the house with much more information and pictures. Can't wait? Come and see us! On Franklin Street, on the website. We look forward to welcoming you.*

Dr. Trani, Richard Robertson and Association President Hugh Keogh cut the ribbon officially opening the Robertson Alumni House.



MARY ELLEN MERCER



ANNE LAWVER '76BFA

## THE WORD ON THE STREET

It's been five years since the first issue of *Shafer Court Connections*, and felt like a good time to revisit what we wanted to accomplish with the new name and look. The goal was to focus on alumni-what they are doing, where they have gone, what they hope to accomplish, and how they are affecting those close to them or on the other side of the world. From that to develop pride in ourselves and our University. And to do it with a dash of humor and humaneness.

The name flowed naturally from that goal. Whether you graduated in 1935 or 1999, Shafer Street or Shafer Court is one thing all alumni have in common, the enduring center of activity through which all students passed.

Connections? That's what the magazine's all about-connecting alumni to one another, connecting RPI traditions with VCU's future, tracing alumni and VCU's connections with the world. VCU has always been proud to be part of a city, part of the real world. Education here means being connected to the energy of everyday life, to its quarrels and compromises, disappointments and delights, its pragmatic setbacks and successes.

After five years the goal still seems right and the name still fits. There are still so many things alumni are doing, ways they are affecting the world which we haven't explored, connections we don't know about. We're eager to learn more, so tell us. Stay in touch.

VCU Alumni Association; P.O. Box 843044; 924 W. Franklin Street; Richmond, VA 23221. (804) VCU-ALUM (828-2586); fax 828-8197; [www.alumni.vcu.edu/](http://www.alumni.vcu.edu/)

## SUPPORTING THEIR DREAMS

"My dream began in high school with the playful thought of having my own company," Catherine Branch '00BS/E, told a crowd of scholarship recipients and donors at the first VCU Endowed Scholarship Dinner on November 17, 1999.

Soon after Catherine came to VCU, everyone in the School of Engineering knew of her hope to get her MBA and start a pharmaceutical company with her sister, **Deidre Branch '96BS/P**. Catherine thanks the School of Engineering faculty for "supplying me with the vital pieces to the puzzle" to make her plan a reality. One of her professors encouraged her to apply for the Philip Morris Scholars Program. "Words cannot describe how happy I was when I found out that I had received the honor of becoming a Philip Morris Scholar-another blessing of support along the road to achieving my dream." Catherine graduated in May with an engineering major and a minor in business. She'll work as an engineer for Corning, Inc. for a few years before getting her MBA and starting her own company.

**Jonny Cecka's** dreams are different, but like Catherine's, carry others along with him.. Jonny had been going to school part-time while working at MCV of VCU to help put his wife **Natalie '98BFA**, through school. Once Natalie graduated and began teaching elementary school in Richmond, Jonny hoped to go back to school full-time to get his degree; "but as you can well imagine, trying to get by on a single public school teacher's salary can be difficult." With the help of the VCU Alumni Association Scholarship, Jonny returned to VCU full-time to finish his last semester in Art Education.

Jonny explained that the VCUEA Scholarship will have a "ripple effect" when he follows his dream and becomes a teacher next year. "I believe that the superior schooling I have received here at VCU has helped me to be an inspiring and effective teacher. Those future Richmond City students of mine, who flourish under my guidance, will also have you to thank." Teachers like Jonny will help their students dream true and strong.

At the dinner, sponsored by the VCU Foundation and VCU Alumni Association, more than 100 VCU scholars from the Academic Campus met their donors. Hosts Provost Roderick McDavis and VCU Foundation President Dixon Whitworth congratulated the students, and thanked the donors who made their studies possible. Dr. McDavis told them, "Whatever your reason for giving so generously, you have chosen a way to make a lasting contribution to this University and to our students, with a gift that gives perpetually. We are truly grateful to you."

## MERIT SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

VCU has made raising money for merit scholarships a top priority. The VCU Alumni Association and donors to the new Alumni House, with the VCU Foundation created a \$1.8 million pool of matching money available to double the endowed scholarship gifts of alumni, faculty and staff who establish a merit scholarship by June 30, 2000. When we started this challenge a year ago, there were seven endowed merit scholarships available to students on the Academic Campus. By June 1, 65 new merit scholarships had been established.

Here's a rare chance to do a lot with a little. Twelve of those were established by VCU employees using payroll deductions over several years. There are other ways to make your money go farther than you would have dreamed. For more information on the Merit Scholarship Campaign or other ways to make a gift to the University, please contact Phillip Perdue at (804) 828-2047, or [pperdue@vcu.edu](mailto:pperdue@vcu.edu).



## VCU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

### Alumni Association Officers

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Kathleen Barrett '71BS '73MS/B  
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African American Alumni Council  
Marilyn Campbell '81BS/MC

# SHAFFER COURT CONNECTIONS

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VOL. 6, NO. 1  
SUMMER 2000

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Cover: We hit the roof (of Hibbs) to capture the new compass rose—  
at the crossroads between Shafer Court and Cabell Library. Photo by  
Allen Jones '82BFA '92MFA.

#### Staff

Mary Ellen Mercer  
editor

Ben Cornatzer  
art director

Cheri Owens  
class notes

Sally Harris Jones  
campus currents

Bill Dies  
director of alumni activities

*Shafer Court Connections* is a magazine for alumni and friends of the Academic Campus of Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. VCU is a Carnegie One Research University with an enrollment of 22,700 students on the Academic and Medical College of Virginia Campuses. The magazine is published twice a year by VCU Alumni Activities.

Contact VCU Alumni Activities at  
924 West Franklin Street  
P.O. Box 843044  
Richmond, VA 23284-3044  
Email: VCU-ALUM@vcu.edu  
Phone: 804 VCU-ALUM  
828-2586  
fax: 804 828-8187  
Website: www.alumni.vcu.edu

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# VCU

Virginia Commonwealth University

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative  
Action Institution

I was hoping someone would do a story like that on SOLs. An overview like that is just what I needed.

Laura Cameron '83BS/MC

Thank you for the advance copy of *Shafer Court Connections*. The article on SOLs is well done. I greatly appreciate you highlighting Lee School. The students and staff have worked hard as a team to provide a quality educational environment.

Thank You!  
Vickie Oakley '88MED

The students and staff of Robert E. Lee Elementary School greatly appreciate your support of our educational endeavors. We appreciate your efforts on Robert E. Lee's behalf.

Robert E. Lee Elementary School  
Richmond

*Ed. Note: Against opposition from parents and staff, Richmond Public School Board voted this spring to close Robert E. Lee School because the old building was underused and would be expensive to renovate.*

To writer Jean Huets, editor Mary Reynolds, and anyone else responsible for "Sweethearts" (Fall '99 *Shafer Court Connections*), the "enchanted" article (as one of the many friends remarked), comes our appreciation! Thank you for featuring us two, 50-year grads of Richmond Professional Institute.

Your title of our section, "Drama and Psychology" led readers to suspect something about opposites. Indeed, the feature suggests that "opposites may attract." We do!

Thank you, also, for having us appear to have led a bit more dramatic years-of-study and early-marriage-days.

All in all, friends have enjoyed "a chuckle or two," as one admitted.

Someday, we hope you look into the Shakespeare Plays Books Collection we gave VCU....

All Our Best!  
Meg '49MFA/A and "Doc" Jim Conner '49BS/H&S

A few weeks ago, I received a fairly typical letter from Meg Conner '49MFA/A, suitably decorated with bright red ink and many, many points of exclamation. As so often happens, I gave up too soon trying to deduce her meaning, and it was not until this afternoon that the Fall issue of your magazine surfaced from the ancient strata on my desk and revealed a story about these dear old friends.

And then, as if I had not wallowed enough in that pond of sentiment, there on the bottom of page 26 was a picture of me (I think) with my beloved friend from the late forties Ann Heller.

In that crazy world built and kept in dynamic imbalance by Henry Hibbs, Ann was the assistant to Margaret Johnson. Pay close attention, now: Dr. Margaret Johnson was in fact the dean of our college, but since Henry Hibbs could not be called president, he had to carry the title of Dean Hibbs. This caused a cascade: Margaret, who was the Dean, had to be called the Registrar, and Ann was thus billed as the Assistant Registrar.

No matter; the thing worked, everybody stayed happy, and we got a pretty good education. The school paid Jim the high wage of 65 cents an hour as a scullery slave, and I earned 42 cents an hour during every registration as assistant to the assistant registrar.

Sincerely yours,  
R.H. "Doc" Langley-Wood '49BS/B

*Shafer Court Connections* is very impressive. It's much better than many other alumni magazines I've seen. The information is good, and the design is much more interesting, even compared with some magazines that have color, but still are flat.

Ann Hoffer  
VCU Director of  
Stewardship

Enjoyed the article on my old friend Dave Harvey ("Hemingway with a Camera," Fall '99 *Connections*) and catching up with his latest achievements. However, you did overlook one of his most significant contributions from his undergraduate days.

In 1964, I recruited Dave and his fellow lensman from *The Proscript*, Perk Gormus, to serve as photographers for the 1965 *Cobblestone*. Their work ranged from mood studies of the campus to the more mundane group shots of campus social and civic clubs, but each photo added a greater degree of artistry to the yearbook.

As editor, it was my honor to work with such tremendous talent, evident even in those formative years.

Denton Cruse '66BS/MC

P.S.—There was also an incident involving skydiving and broken legs which was probably best left out of the article.

**Late-but eternal-gratitude**  
Meg Conners' letter mentions editor Mary Reynolds. Mary was the able interim editor for April-June '99, while I was on leave teaching in Slovakia. I want to acknowledge her capable coverage on the alumni magazines for both campuses.—MEM



## General Assembly Highlights

To prepare for the 2000 session of the General Assembly, Dr. Trani and VCU staff worked very hard throughout the year to brief members of the General Assembly and the Governor's administration.

Many of VCU's legislative priorities were included in the Governor's proposed budget announced in December. These included funding for the School of Engineering; and authorization to use non-general tuition funds from out-of-state students. We are grateful that Governor Gilmore included \$22 million for our top priority, funding for indigent care at VCU's MCV Hospitals, and that the General Assembly adopted the Governor's recommendation.

We are pleased that all of VCU's legislative priorities were funded in the General Assembly's budget:

- \$3.6 million in funding to expand our Life Sciences Program
- \$1.9 million for capital construction renovations to the James Branch Cabell and Tompkins-McCaw Libraries, and
- \$1 million for the School of Engineering.

VCU also will receive approximately \$12 million for computers and high-tech laboratory equipment—such as a pentium electron microscope—through the Higher Education Equipment Trust Fund; \$250,000 to enhance campus safety; and \$241,850 for student financial aid.

To increase efficiency in clinical and educational practices, the MCV Hospitals Authority at VCU requested that a bill be introduced to amend its administrative structure and change the name of the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals Authority to the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System Authority. The measure was adopted by both houses and was signed by the Governor on April 8, 2000.

The General Assembly gave careful consideration to more than twenty bills about the issue of the Certificate of Public Need, now necessary before hospitals may expand buildings or services. VCU worked with the Medical Society of Virginia, the Hospital and Healthcare Association and others to bring a favorable resolution. The most substantive bill, Senate Bill 337, requires a transition plan for deregulating COPN, and includes two important safeguards for academic medical centers. The bill requires General Assembly approval before the plan is implemented, and factors in the need to address the care of indigent patients. Governor Gilmore signed the legislation on April 9.

We are extremely pleased with VCU's success during the 2000 General Assembly session, and we are already planning VCU's legislative strategy for next year.

Don Gehrig, Vice President for External Relations

## Recreation Special for Sporting Spouses

Is your spouse a good sport? VCU Recreational Sports is pleased to offer memberships to spouses of alumni Recreational Sports members. An annual spouse membership, September 1—August 31, is \$190.00. New memberships are prorated on a monthly basis, with prices adjusted from the beginning of each month. Recreational Sports membership provides access to the Stuart Siegel Center, MCV Campus Recreation and Aquatic Center, and the Cary Street Recreation Complex.

VCU offers family recreation hours for children under 18 only on Sunday afternoons. They must be directly supervised at all times and are restricted from some activities. Hours are seasonal and may vary at each facility, so call ahead for specifics. Information and registration forms for family recreation are available at each service desk.

For more membership information, contact David Heflin at the MCV Campus Recreation and Aquatic Center at (804) 828-6039, dheflin@saturn.vcu.edu.



MEDIA PRODUCTION SERVICES

## Research Review Reinstated

In December, the Food and Drug Administration and the National Institutes of Health announced that VCU's Institutional Review Board (IRB) practice fell short of guidelines and declared a moratorium on research involving human subjects. Although no subjects had been harmed, the agencies felt the potential for harm was there, and ordered VCU to halt enrollments in clinical studies. In January, the Office for Protection from Research Risks (OPRR) suspended all federally supported research projects with human subjects, unless for the benefit of patients—such as trials of new cancer drugs. Duke University and several others were also brought up short by OPRR within the last year.

Acting with dispatch, VCU has clarified human research guidelines to faculty, replaced key people overseeing the process, tightened its research review process, and hired an independent review board, which has reviewed more than 700 projects now again in progress.

On the Academic Campus, projects in psychology, education, public policy, and social work have been affected. Provost Dr. Roderick McDavis says VCU is about halfway through the process of reevaluating 1,500 projects, and that “vulnerable populations” in clinical trials take precedence.

Both faculty and graduate research has been delayed. A faculty committee is reviewing requests from students where work toward a degree may be delayed. With faculty research, “it will be a couple of years before we see the impact on promotion and tenure decisions.” Researchers are still submitting proposals for funding, but once funded, “they go into the queue” for review.

In early June, the OPRR gave VCU approval to reinstate its own review panels, putting the process in fast forward. By the fall, or possibly January, 2001, the reviews should finish.

McDavis emphasizes the long-term benefits: “We’ve all learned a great deal. It will make us all much more sensitive, more careful. It will make us a better university.”

## Opening Doors

VCU's Siegel Center looked like a national political convention when hundreds gathered to pay homage to Virginia statesman L. Douglas Wilder, the nation's first elected black governor. More than 650 people joined Virginia Governor Jim Gilmore and VCU President Eugene Trani to honor Wilder on the 10th anniversary of his historic inauguration.

Thanking the crowd, Wilder commented, “People say, ‘how could this be done in Virginia?’ I always thought the South would provide the first opportunity. People here know each other better, whether they want to or not,” the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* reported. He added a challenge: “The door has been opened. No door stays open by itself.”

Proceeds from the event launched the L. Douglas Wilder Scholars Program, awarding scholarships to exemplary students who attend a Virginia college or university.

A portrait of Wilder painted by **Loryn Brazier '62BA/A** unveiled that night (above, with the artist) will hang at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery in Washington.



DAVID HUNTER MALE '93BGS/INTS

## Chair Brings Harmony

John Guthmiller, associate professor of music at VCU, became interim chair of the Department of Music in January. Guthmiller hopes “to create and develop an environment that maximizes the potential of the department, its faculty and its students.”

He is used to making harmony. Former assistant chair of music and VCU choral director, Guthmiller is also director and conductor of the Richmond Concert Choral and the Williamsburg Choral Guild. His choirs have performed across the U.S., in Poland and the former Soviet Union. The search for a permanent chair begins this fall.

## Emphasis on Undergrads

Dr. Patricia Cummins has been appointed VCU's vice provost for academic affairs. Cummins was dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Toledo from 1995-98 and professor of romance languages.

Her top priorities at VCU are retention efforts, and reviewing and increasing the effectiveness of undergraduate academic programs. She will help implement the University's new Center for

Teaching Excellence, created to provide technical support to faculty. She will monitor the progress of VCU's Strategic Plan, work on reaccreditation, and be the liaison with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia.

## Top of the Class

Ten VCU graduate programs are among the best in the country, according to *U.S. News & World Report's* 2001 rankings.

Top programs include:

- Sculpture, 5th
- Rehabilitation Counseling, 7th
- Health Services Administration, 8th
- Community Health, 11th
- Social Work, 13th
- Physical Therapy, 15th
- Drug/Alcohol Abuse, 16th
- Fine Arts, 19th
- Nursing, 52nd

“Our peers around the country recognize VCU as a top university that offers high-quality graduate and professional education,” said VCU President Eugene Trani. “This is another benchmark that signifies we are meeting and exceeding the needs of our students.”

Using different criteria each year, *U.S. News* surveys deans and other university officials to rate the best programs in each field.

## Worth It

A recent VCU study found that using the drug tamoxifen against breast cancer in high-risk women “is one of the most cost-effective medical interventions known,” says Dr. Thomas Smith, chair of hematology and oncology at VCU's Massey Cancer Center and principal investigator.

“Using tamoxifen is more cost-effective than mammography in detecting early breast cancer, or the use of hypertension drugs to prevent strokes and heart attacks.” Currently, some patients using tamoxifen who are not enrolled in clinical trials must pay the annual \$1,000-plus cost themselves.

The first cost-effectiveness analysis of tamoxifen, the study appeared in *The Journal of Clinical Oncology* in January, co-authored by Smith and VCU's Dr. Bruce Hillner.

## Board of Visitors

Governor Gilmore has appointed new members for VCU's Board of Visitors. Ralph “Bill” Axsel Jr. is a Richmond lawyer, lobbyist and former Delegate (D. Henrico). Dr. Stephen Long '86MD '87HS/M, a former faculty member of the School of Medicine, is a medical director of the Center for Pain Relief in Richmond. Monty Phymale '70BS/B is CEO of the Friendship Manor, a retirement community in Roanoke.

## e-com.edu?

Dr. Michael Sesnowitz will assume the helm of VCU's School of Business as new dean July 1. As dean of the business school at the University of Vermont, he worked with local businesses and attracted out-of-state students to campus—a major VCU priority. His experience in Vermont will help the School here realize its vision of blending technology, student recruiting, business partnerships and research.

Sesnowitz plans to explore how best to expand various areas of study like e-commerce. “Do we need a separate program, or do we need to incorporate e-commerce in [existing] courses? Or do we do both?” reported the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*.

## Our Woman in Washington

Dietra Trent '95MPA/H&S has been named director of federal relations in the Division of External Relations for VCU. Trent is increasing VCU's visibility among members and staff of Congress, executive branch agencies and national organizations. She is also influencing and monitoring policy development and important legislation and securing funding for specific projects.

VCU has used lobbying firms in Washington, firms that also have other schools as clients. Trent points out that as part of VCU, “I have a direct investment in these issues. And it's definitely an advantage to have your own eyes and ears in D.C.”





## Medical Heads Change Helms

The MCV Hospital Authority, a quasi-private organization that manages the Hospitals, is expanding to include the MCV Physicians group and will now be called the VCU Health System Authority. The General Assembly approved the move to increase efficiency in clinical and educational practices.

"Our goal is nothing less than attaining national leadership in health-care teaching, research and patient care," said VCU President Eugene Trani.

Dr. Hermes Kontos (above), former vice president for health sciences and dean of the School of Medicine, was appointed CEO of the VCU Health System Authority. Dr. Heber Newsome, senior associate dean of medicine, became the new dean of the medical school.



## Eye&Ear&MCVH

VCU's MCV Hospitals and Richmond Eye & Ear Hospital are planning to operate an ambulatory surgery center in Richmond's Stony Point, near the outpatient facility for MCV Physicians there. The center will be the area's largest facility for ophthalmology and otolaryngology patient care, offering the most current treatments. MCVH's plans for further expansion at Stony Point include orthopedic, gynecological and pediatric general surgeries.

The \$7 million medical office building is under construction, to open next summer, when Richmond Eye & Ear will move its entire operation to Stony Point, and MCVH will take possession of Richmond Eye & Ear Hospital's current downtown facility.

## Hedge against Hepatitis C

An MCV Hospitals study published in the Journal of Gastroenterology has demonstrated for the first time that long-term use (six months) of interferon therapy is effective against chronic hepatitis C.

The study of 53 chronic patients suggests that "long-term interferon therapy can prevent the disease's progression and ultimately reduce the risk for liver cancer and the need for liver transplants," says lead author Dr. Mitchell Schiffman '88HS/M. "This is critically important because hepatitis C infections and deaths have been forecast for dramatic increases over the next two decades."

## The Heart Beat

MCV Hospitals has been named a 1999 Consumer Choice Award winner for heart care service. It was the only Richmond area hospital among the 124 hospitals named in rankings for specialties and announced in the Nov. 8 issue of *Modern Healthcare*.

Overall, MCVH was one of 126 Consumer Choice Award Winners for 1999, chosen by consumers as having the highest quality and image for healthcare services. MCVH tied Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital for the Richmond area.

## It's a Wrap

VCU now has a Bachelor of Fine Arts program in Photography and Film, with enrollment starting this fall. Dale Quarterman, chair of photography and film, commented, "Student interest in careers in photography and film is really at a high, as is the need for professional photographers and filmmakers in the state of Virginia."

The program will give first and second year students a foundation in photography, media arts, visual communication and art history; then they may concentrate in still photography, filmmaking or both. The department already offers all BFA required courses.

The degree will prepare students for careers in corporate, freelance, documentary, advertising, portrait, digital and industrial photography. Filmmakers could be directors, animators, camera operators, editors, gaffers, screenwriters and producers. More than 50 communication arts and design students and more than 30 general studies students currently are concentrating in photography and film. The department expects 100-200 students to enroll in the next four years.

## Napoleon: Live (and kicking) at VCU

When Napoleon cried out for help at Waterloo, VCU Theatre Chair David Leong stepped up to do battle with an army of students and a call for 'Action!' Creators of "Napoleon: The Musical" visited VCU in December when internationally known fight director Leong choreographed the show's battle sequences.

Writer Andrew Sabiston, composer Tim Williams and opera director Francesca Zambello turned VCU's Raymond Hodges Theatre into Napoleon's stomping ground for a week and enlisted 36 lucky theater students to

act out scenes. The production follows Napoleon's rise and fall as a leader and lover, and opens in September in London.

Leong is one of only 10 certified fight masters in the world with more than 250 productions under his (black) belt.

## Our Prized Students

**Drama and Mystery** VCU student playwrights have received national and international praise for their work. Junior Emily Roderer's 10-minute play "Scheherazade" was featured in January at the Actors Theatre in Louisville, Kentucky, and Junior Wendy Mathis Parker's one-act, "Triple A," appeared in Romania's Sibiu International Theatre Festival this spring. Roderer's script was one of six chosen from 2,000 for "Wintermezzo," an annual apprentice showcase. Parker's play competed with scripts from 56 countries and was among seven presented in play-reading performance and radio theater.

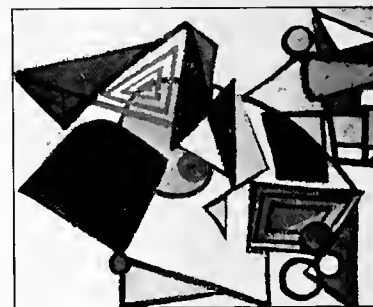
Junior Brian Murphy is one of only four students in the United States to win the Maurice Kanbar Award at New York's Hunter College National Student Festival for Film, Video and New Media. Murphy wrote, directed and produced the 15-minute film "Rituals, Routines & Hidden Agendas," that won the undergraduate narrative prize.

**Dressed for Success** A Chinese silk dress designed by two VCU juniors made it to the finals of Chic Chinois, an international design competition in Beijing. Fashion design major Kristin Biddle and Kevin Kitun Fung, double major in computer science and art, designed the dress to represent woman's grace and authority. The task was to blend ancient Chinese culture with contemporary materials and themes. The design, chosen from 1,200, will be shown in Paris, Beijing and Japan.

A passion for lollipops has landed one VCU student sweet success. Junior Katherine Vest put her love for Dum-Dums on her sleeve when a class assignment challenged her to create an outfit from recyclable goods. Her dress made

entirely from Dum-Dum wrappers has a flavorful future.

Spangler Candy, Dum-Dums' maker, showcased her design on its website and PR materials, and Vest might reproduce the dress for exhibition at its trade shows. At home, Vest's good taste won her a spot in 1708 Gallery's charity fashion show where it was named "Most Recyclable." The Valentine Museum is displaying the dress in its "Fashion Recycled" exhibit. **In Addition** The VCU Adcenter opened in August 1996 and has been pulling down awards, recognition and great jobs for graduates ever since. The One Club for Art and Copy voted two advertisements created by VCU Adcenter students among the 10 best student ads in the 1990s. One magazine published winners in its winter 1999 issue.



## Art Revival

A VCU art historian has curated the first full-scale retrospective in two decades on American painter Lee Krasner, late wife of Jackson Pollock. Robert Hobbs, Rhoda Thalheimer Endowed Chair in Art History, assembled more than 60 paintings, collages and drawings for a national tour beginning at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and continuing in Des Moines and Akron through the summer to finish at the Brooklyn Museum of Art in New York October 6-January 7, sponsored by Philip Morris.

The show begins with early figurative work and runs through a 50-year career marked by constant reinvention. Krasner emerged in the 1930s as "one of the important young vanguard artists in New York," says Hobbs. When she met Pollock, then an unknown, "history quickly reversed itself." Hobbs is looking for a critical reinvention for Krasner with this new national exposure.

## Transplanting UNOS

UNOS, an organization that manages the nation's organ transplants, is moving from Chesterfield County to the Virginia Biotechnology Park adjacent to the MCV Campus. UNOS coordinates the matching and distribution of donated organs to waiting patients. It also maintains the world's most comprehensive medical database for potential donors and patients. The agency has coordinated nearly 200,000 transplants since 1987.

VCU President, Dr. Eugene Trani, will co-chair the UNOS campaign to raise \$8 million locally to fund construction of UNOS' new headquarters at the Park.



"Practice, practice." The Greater Richmond Children's Choir of VCU's Community School for the Performing Arts made its New York debut in April performing in Carnegie Hall's "Field Studies International Festival 2000." The choir, directed by Hope Armstrong Erb, received the highest rating of 20 children's choirs and was named a featured choir.



## It Shoots, It Scores!

Their playing's a little mechanical. Shooting from center court, they make a trough, not a basket. And isn't 5' a little short for this game?

Call it not-quite-basketball. It's a FIRST, the robotics competition For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology sponsored by NASA at Langley and the VCU School of Engineering, at the Siegel Center's Alltel Pavilion March 17-19.

Thirty-nine high school teams competed in the South Atlantic Regional (extending to the South Atlantic off Brazil). The players began life six weeks before as a box of parts. Each team of students (with professional advisors) took the aluminum, fiberglass and plywood pieces and made a robot to specs.

Since robot-teams played two-on-two, the human teams had to cooperate as well as compete. "We learned to work with others even if they're working against us," said student Terrans Purcell.

Langley's "NASA Knights" won the competition. But everyone took a "prize." Kristina Angelone of Midlothian High School near Richmond commented, "This definitely has been a great way to learn about engineering. It's something that'll be useful to us for the rest of our lives."

## E-exchange

In a new high tech tradeoff, VCU students are learning valuable computer skills they can immediately put to use at area companies. The idea came from a realization that VCU's information systems department "needed to be more useful to the business community," said George Kasper, chairman of VCU's Information Systems Department, as reported in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*.

On a recommendation by Reynolds Metals Co., IBM donated a \$250,000 AS/400e server and \$400,000 software package to the VCU Department; and J.D. Edwards kicked in its OneWorld software. Once server savvy, students will work on the same computer systems at Reynolds Metals and may even link into jobs.

VCU's program is one of a handful nationwide offering hands-on experience with the AS/400 server and its software.

## Digital Revolutionaries

"We're preparing people for jobs that don't exist now," says Terry Oggel, the Acting Director of VCU's School of Mass Communications. "The digital revolution changes everything. We have to look at the way that affects individual courses as well as the entire curriculum of the School." With faculty, alumni and other professionals, the faculty is developing a new strategic plan for the 800 Mass Comm undergraduates.

Oggel points out that "We're seeing a convergence of media. A news editor has to work in electronic media, for example. The new curriculum will see 'an overlap of disciplines, of the tracks in public relations, news editing, electronic media and advertising.'"

Five current faculty searches will build those areas. Two are new positions, and all are tenure track, focusing on electronic media, media graphics and advertising. A major initiative is converting from analog to digital equipment. The digital technology center the School envisions will need \$1.57 million in state, private and alumni funding for equipment. The 21st century



## Image-Makers

VCU's Department of Communication Arts and Design was well represented at The Illustration Conference in Santa Fe last October. The three-day event was a first, bringing together more than 400 freelance illustrators, art educators, art buyers, artist's representatives, art directors and designers.

Hot topics included the effect of the web and how the changing business climate has drastically affected the status and bottom line of illustrators. Bryan Leister '85BFA (right) spoke to illustrators about developing a database of images on a website that would be accessible to clients online for reuse. With Bryan are Becky Heavner '85BFA, Chad Cameron '94BFA, Robert Megand (CDE faculty), Mike Hodges (former CDE faculty) and Alex Bostic (CDE faculty) [www.bryanleister.com](http://www.bryanleister.com) the conference: <http://www.illustrconf.org>

News Center is already integrated into the undergraduate programs.

The School's graduates will be a lot more than sound-bite web wonders, however. "Our students will continue to be strong in the core liberal arts areas, like writing and critical thinking. We will always emphasize discerning judgment," Oggel says. "Ethics and legal issues will be an integral part of the courses."

Another development is the question of accreditation. Last year VCU decided to let the School's accreditation lapse. Since then, Mass Comm faculty has voted to seek re-accreditation, which VCU will pursue as the restructured School takes shape within the next few years.

As for graduate programs on suspended admission except for the Adcenter, "We anticipate they'll be reinstated year after next in selected areas-journalism education and perhaps media management are two strong possibilities. There may be a

business mass communications program for managing online companies," says Oggel.

## Wired Students

VCU will join a growing list of universities requiring all incoming freshmen to bring a personal computer, beginning in 2001. The University will equip every dorm room with computer ports and will make it easier for students living off campus to access campus resources. VCU will negotiate pricing contracts with multiple providers for discounted prices on new computers, with baseline computer specifications set and revised every year.

A recent survey found that in 1999, 53 percent of incoming VCU freshmen had a computer and another 17 percent planned to purchase one.

## Med School in NOVA

VCU has asked approval from the State Council of Higher Education to launch a branch of its medical school in Northern Virginia, to operate in partnership with the five-hospital Inova Health System. The project is the first of this magnitude for any medical school in Virginia.

The project could be underway as early as mid-2000, beginning with medical student rotations at Inova. It would take up to five years to set up complete medical education programs.

## Silver Screen

### C'est Unique

"The Festival enriches all of us. It is literally unmatched by any other film festival in our nation." Flanked by some charmed French actors, VCU provost Dr. Rodrick McJavis, opens the 8th VCU French Film Festival on April 1, 2000 at the Byrd Theatre.

The Department of Foreign Languages sponsors the only all-French festival in the United States. A delegation of 16 French actors, directors and producers descended on Richmond to present six new features and eight shorts. Several were winners or

nominees for awards at Cannes 1999, or Césars (French Oscars). Among others, directors Jean-Loup Hubert and Eric Guirado introduced their prizewinners and discussed le cinema français. The festival, founded and run by French professor Peter Kirkpatrick, drew 6,000 cinemaphiles, and the assistance of the French cultural attaché, Lazare Paupert.

## Say Anything

The avant-guard went forward April 10-16 for The James River Film Festival sponsored by the Department of Art History. Animator Karen Aqua (Sesame Street), composer Tran Verlaïne (Flashlight) and filmmaker Alan Berliner (Nobody's Business) were major attractions. Films, lectures and workshops at VCU, UR, VUU, and museums and theaters all over Richmond covered the art and politics of independent filmmaking.



## Trading TIPS

In a world gone global, investing has never been easier to do—or more complicated to decipher. International brokers, bankers and economists traveled to VCU March 23 to help students see where in the world international stocks, bonds, mutual funds and venture capital are headed. The International Business Forum, “Global Investing: The Future of Economic Growth and Prosperity,” was hosted by VCU’s School of Business. Dr. David Dubofsky, chair of VCU’s finance, insurance and real estate department moderated.

The experts discussed three democracies they see changing the face of global investing: the democracy of information on the Internet, where anyone can access company and stock information and trade themselves; the democracy of technology—anyone computer-equipped has easy access to the world; and the global spread of political democracy—an electronic herd of investors can move money quickly.

“Never before has there been such a wide range of investment opportunities around the world,” said Dr. Van Wood, VCU’s Philip Morris Chair in International Business and marketing professor. “Democracy has arrived in global finance.



Anyone can invest. Similarly, anyone can offer investments. The future lies with those who have the information.”

On a student’s request for insider tips, Warren Mosler, founder of Adams, Viner & Mosler in West Palm Beach, FL warned against an “overpriced” stock market susceptible to impending recession, and recommended treasury investment protected securities (TIPS)—what he called the safest investments around. But Dr. Anthony Aylward, a financial officer at the World Bank in Washington, disagreed, advising students to buy technology stocks.

A week later, technology stocks plunged. Even the experts lose some.

## Pyramid Power

David Colby and 60 other students took a risk enrolling four years ago in VCU’s first class of engineering majors. The payoff came on May 13 when VCU’s first engineering graduates, and the first class of the millennium, graduated together.

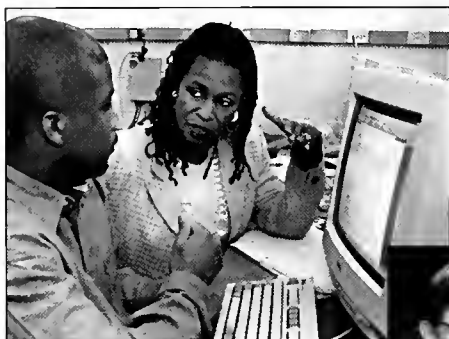
Dr. Robert Mattauch, engineering school dean, described the school’s inception as a “leap of faith” for all involved. “We finally now have external validation of the success of our new program.”

Top graduate programs at M.I.T., California Institute of Technology, UC-Berkeley and the University of Delaware want Colby and fellow classmates.

National companies such as IBM, Ethyl, Dupont, Honeywell and Motorola and local bigwigs Philip Morris, Virginia Power and White Oak Semiconductor are wooing VCU engineering grads.

Building on success, the School will begin master’s and doctoral programs in this fall. The new interdisciplinary programs incorporate chemical, electrical and mechanical engineering with educational and research experiences in manufacturing and business. With tremendous industry support, the programs will also offer unique courses in manufacturing systems, business, management and entrepreneurial activities. VCU pledged to the state that the new programs would operate without additional state funding.

In December, the Engineering Foundation honored key board member Eva Teig, senior vice president of Virginia Power and Dominion Resources. Teig was instrumental in getting the school under way with a major gift from Virginia Power. In fact, it was Teig who suggested using a pyramid as the architectural signature on the school’s new building—and now, who could imagine the School without its pyramid power?



“You must understand what Robert Maynard called the ‘fault lines’ that divide society by race, class, gender, geography and generation. This is crucial to writing fair and balanced journalism.”

**Dorothy Gilliam**, veteran reporter, editor and columnist for *The Washington Post* and 2000 Virginus Dabney Distinguished Professor at the School of Mass Communications, March 26-30



what it means is the exciting part. It’s places like the Biotech Park where solutions will bubble up.”

**Dr. Francis S. Collins**, Director of the National Human Genome Research Institute, inaugural lecture of Evening at Bio-Tech, at VCU Medical Sciences Auditorium, November 18



“We should have the entire human genome script by 2001, years ahead of schedule. But figuring out

“Inner cities face two core impediments to financial services: lack of economies of scale and lack of good information. But 20,000 parishioners investing \$500 a piece can wield \$10 million. By partnering with strong social organizations such as churches, financial institutions can benefit both themselves and investors.”

**Dr. Peter Tufano**, Harvard University business professor, Charles G. Thalheimer Family Scholar-in-Residence at VCU’s School of Business, April 13-14.



“If you can understand the landscape of a chemical change or a biological change, you might be able to alter the landscape.”

**Dr. Ahmed Zewail**, 1999 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry. His experi-

ments opened the new field of femtochemistry, where a high-speed laser camera can take pictures of molecules during a chemical or biological reaction. A femtosecond is 10 to minus-15 seconds, or 0.000000000000001 second. His discovery could affect fields from drug development to microelectronics. Keynote speaker, VCU-hosted International Symposium on Cluster and Nanostructure Interfaces, October 25



“I hope you can envision a future of our country that’s better. Make a commitment to improve the community in which you live.”

**David Satcher**, U.S. Surgeon General speaking to more than 4,200 graduates at VCU Commencement, May 13

# Live at VCU



## Symbiosis

In a move that brings the medical and academic campuses closer to a unified University, VCU named Dr. Thomas F. Huff as its new interim vice provost for life sciences. Huff, microbiology and immunology professor and Institutional Grants Program director for VCU's Massey Cancer Center, will lead the development of cross-campus education and scholarship in life sciences. At VCU, these include science, mathematics, medicine, technology and engineering.

"Now our students can benefit from the expertise of outstanding scientists on both the academic and medical campuses," said VCU President Eugene Trani. The vice provost will develop new degree programs in life sciences, create basic research and clinical experiences for students on both campuses, establish new research projects, and recruit new faculty. He will work from VCU's Life Sciences Building on the academic campus, to be finished in summer 2001.

Huff has been on the faculty since 1985.

## Impressionable Minds

You've heard it countless times—America's youth are exposed to too much violence. But the impact of what's on the screen is negligible compared to what kids see on the street or at home. A new report by VCU criminal justice researcher Dr. Colleen McLaughlin McCue, explores the glamorization and normalization of neighborhood violence.

"Violent crime rates alone do not adequately communicate the overall health of a community," says McCue's report in April's debut issue of *Trauma, Violence & Abuse*.

The study describes homicide scenes as carnivals where trucks sell snack food to audiences full of children. "Parents worry about the violence that kids see on TV or in the movies, but how much more will children be affected by what they see in their own neighborhood?"

## Community Nursing

The School of Nursing got a major boost with a \$500,000 gift from the Theresa Thomas Foundation to support the School's programs for underserved urban residents.

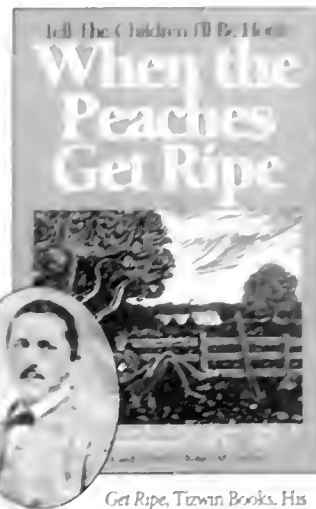
Dr. Joanne Henry became the first Theresa A. Thomas Memorial Foundation

Endowed Professor and directs the gift's use, identifying unmet health needs in Richmond's urban community. "Dr. Henry's record of advancing health care to the traditionally underserved is extraordinary," said Dr. Nancy Langston, nursing school dean. "Commitment to the community is a fundamental aspect of her life and work."

## Research Confederate

Dr. Robert Tombes, a Massey Cancer Center scientist, turned from microscope to microfiche to qualify for a research grant from the R. Clifton Brooks Fund. Brooks established the eccentric fund to provide grants to descendants of Confederate Civil War veterans who are conducting biomedical research.

So scientist Tombes turned historian, searching the archives of Richmond's Museum of the Confederacy to confirm descent from his Confederate great-great grandfather, Robert Gaines Haile (whose best friend was the Lost Cause's most famous martyr MCV alumnus William Latane 1853MD). Haile's Civil War journal and letters were so interesting Tombes published a book, *Tell the Children I'll Be Home When the Peaches*



*Get Ripe*, Tizwin Books. His brother Tom Tombes '81BFA did the cover illustration, book design and production.

The book came out last October, the same week Tombes received official notice from J.E.B. Stuart IV that his Brooks Fund proposal was fully funded.

For more on the science and the history, see <http://saturn.vcu.edu/~rmtombes>



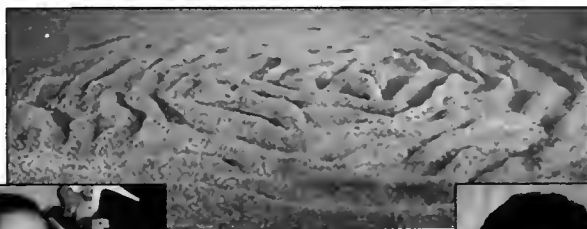
"In the next 10 years or so, most of the best and brightest engineers at GM will be women. My comments reflect the population and the trend in the work force."

**G. Richard Wagoner Jr.**, president and CEO of General Motors Corp., quoted in *Style Weekly*. Wagoner revived GM—now the world's largest company—by cutting costs and reshaping the way it designs and builds its cars. Charles G. Thalheimer Family Executive-in-Residence at VCU's School of Business, February 16-17



"The combined efforts to make feminism a part of the mainstream and to end white supremacy are crucial if we are to live in a world where peace and justice prevail."

**bell hooks**, writer and social critic, addressed an overflow crowd celebrating the 30th anniversary of VCU's African American Studies Program and 10 years of the Women's Studies Program. Engineering Auditorium, March 23



"I typically strive for a connection between the process of construction and the resultant form. I begin with a particular material and manipulate it to create discrete units."

**Tara Donovan '99MFA**, Her sculpture "Ripple," made of cut electric cables, is featured in the Biennial exhibit at New York's Whitney Museum of American Art. She has also received a \$10,000 National Joan Mitchell Foundation Award in the Visual Arts.



"Given that this is my 25th cancer anniversary, I find myself thinking about how much has changed for a breast cancer patient today compared with back then—and it's all good:

more treatment options, like lumpectomies; new, wonderful drugs, like herceptin and tamoxifen; and as for reconstruction, we've come a long way since I stuck my husband's tennis sock in my bra in 1973!"

**Betty Rollin**, NBS news correspondent, best-selling novelist and journalist, at Women & Wellness Luncheon, Massey Cancer Center February 8. Proceeds raised by the Jenkins Foundation will benefit Massey's breast cancer research. For Rollin's 25th cancer anniversary, this October HarperCollins will reissue her book about her experience, *First, You Cry*.



"[In Russia] relations in the political as well as the economic sphere have increasingly taken on negative features of the shadow-criminal sector....Effective support from the West must include ... an emphasis on law over the transitory appeal of individual leaders and attention to liberal principles that ensure freedom in the economic, political and social spheres."

**Dr. Lynn Nelson**, VCU sociology and political science professor and a senior researcher at Moscow's Institute for Reform Studies. He testified on "Corruption in Russian Government," before U.S.-R International Relations Committee, October 7, 1999.



"...as intensely as I may see my parcel of reality, it is only...a parcel, not the wholeness of reality: we cannot see reality without counting on what others see."

**Carlos Fuentes**, novelist and social critic, author of *The Crystal Frontier*, keynote lecturer, Language and Identity Word Sound Image series sponsored by Department of Foreign Languages and Honors Program coming October 26, Commons Ballroom, 7:30 pm. Lectures 2000-01 <http://www.has.vcu.edu/lecture/or/304-273-0187>

# From Hibbs' Hub to Hip Hop

1930s



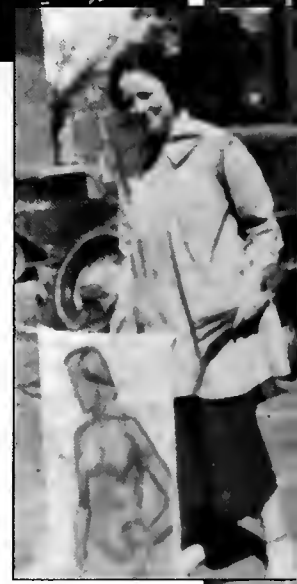
"Oh, we were constantly back and forth across Shafer Street—it was the campus, really. At first, everything was in Ginter House—classrooms, administration, even professors' apartments on the upper floors.

"One time a foot came through the ceiling into our chemistry lab. Someone said, 'I'll bet that's Hibbs.' It was. They were putting in new flooring in the room above us, and he went through the ceiling. You'd see him everywhere, standing on ladders with the workmen. His first and only thought was for his school. He was a most unusual man.

"It was a great event when we finally got a gymnasium and auditorium, the Shafer Street Playhouse building. We had a lot of performances. All the men's parts were played by women. (We had only one boy on campus; in fact there were only 10 or 12 of us in the freshman class.) I remember once we did "Little Women," and someone's hoop skirt caught on a nail and pulled the whole set down.

"We got a cadaver for anatomy class. It was quite a to-do that we should have one. Hibbs didn't want it, but the professors insisted. Hibbs put double locks on the door, worried about student pranks, I think."

Lucille Anderson Baber '39BS(MT)/AH



## Alumni remember their own

BY ELIZABETH MCDADE '93MFA/H&S AND RAY BONIS '88BS/MC, CABELL LIBRARY ARCHIVES

# 1940s

"We girls were in the habit of hitchhiking. Of course, we were always careful to protect our dorm mothers—they never knew. One day I was standing on the corner of Monroe Park hitching a ride and Dean Hibbs picked me up. He never said a thing, just laughed."

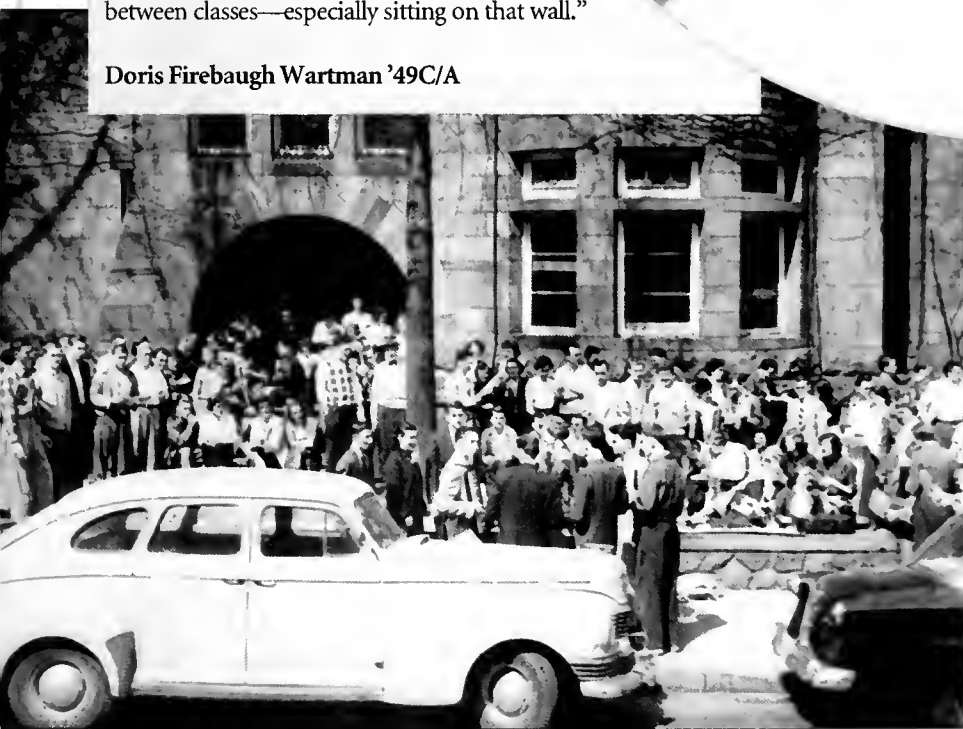
**Elizabeth Schmidt '48B '75BFA '83MA/A**

"I always think of Milton Randolph when I recall Shafer Street. It was there, beside his truck, where our friendship grew. Milton was the postal truck driver who brought and fetched RPI's mail. He had earned a master's from Howard and discovered the saddening truth that he could earn a better living with the post office. He was eventually responsible in a material way for my choice of social psychology work at Cornell. He opened doors for me in the black community at a time when whites and blacks simply were not together socially. In return I could do very little for him and his wife, and that really rankled. Their son, as far as I know, graduated from Amherst."

**R. H. Langley-Wood '49BS/B**

"A lot of men who came to RPI could not have afforded to, except for the GI Bill. There were a lot of them around—it sure made it fun. Even though many of them lived off campus, there were always large groups of people on Shafer Street in front of the ad building (Ginter House). It was the meeting place between classes—especially sitting on that wall."

**Doris Firebaugh Wartman '49C/A**



# 1950s

"The German club used to sponsor Minstrel Shows on Shafer Street. There were skits, jokes and some singing—if you could call it that. After the girls had to be in for the night, the boys would run up to The Paddle House to get cheeseburgers and drinks. The girls would lower baskets out of the dorm windows for the food. We'd talk through the windows 'til long after 10 p.m."

**Leo Nowak '54BS/B**

"The Music and Art Departments were on Shafer and Park. The area's houses were peopled by many widows and old maids, you know, rather stiff types. The girls used to walk back to their dorms across Shafer Street with smocks dirty from art class. Dean Hibbs received complaints about their appearance from the neighbors. He (apologetically) issued an order that the girls had to wear trench coats over their clothes when returning to the dorms. I taught at a Methodist university before VCU. I was surprised to find that the rules here were even stricter than those at the Methodist university—and more strictly observed."

"Another story I heard was that the Governor called about complaints he was receiving. Apparently the neighbors could see across the street into the art classes when nude models were being used."

**Wayne Batty, Music Faculty '49-'99**

# Shafer Street/Court Connections

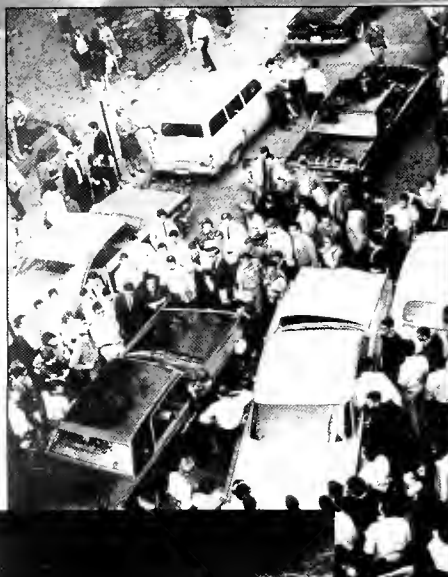
# 1960s

"Shafer Street had the air of a bullring. The men would come strutting out like matadors to see and be seen. The Slop Shop at Hibbs was the hub of campus. Absolutely wonderful! Like going to a party in a small room, you had to talk to everyone. It was a brilliantly noisy place—the milk shake machine revving, the griddle's smell of hot grease. We would come for class an hour early and sit in Hibbs having dynamic conversations about political history and people watching. When I think back on it, it feels like my whole undergraduate career took place on Shafer Street."

**Fred Wayne '70BA/H&S  
'86MS(RC)/AH**

"I used to get to VCU at 4 o'clock just to find a parking space before my 6 o'clock class. Shafer Street always had lots of kids hanging around between classes, but most of the students were commuters. When I saw the new VCU bookstore the other day I almost cried. It's so wonderful! There's a real sense of campus now that we didn't have in the '60s. Most of the houses on Franklin were still homes. You could drive straight downtown and never know RPI was there."

**Susan Nunemaker '65BS/H&S '68MEd**







## 1970s

"Shafer Court was a great gathering point—we were always getting calls from teachers at Hibbs complaining, 'We can't teach,' because of noisy protests. It was a time of tremendous change. There was integration of both race and sex."

Jane Bell Gladding, RPI/VCU Dean of Students

"We brought quite a bit of turmoil to the university. The university, when I began, was all white other than having made some token steps toward integrating the student body. I gave speeches in Shafer Court protesting the war in Vietnam, condemning racist practices at VCU and asking for the resignation of Richmond's Chief of Police."



West Side Story hits the street—  
Shafer Street.



**Jim Elam '73BSW**, First African-American Student Government President (above right)

"When I came to VCU, of course, there was no Student Commons. On Shafer Court, all of the activities that now go on at the Commons happened during the day, like the sidewalk information tables, fraternity stepping, etc.

"A lot of the activities had a hippie flavor in the '70s—Frisbee throwing, music majors playing their instruments, art majors selling pottery, jewelry, paintings, etc. The VCU bookstore, a couple of residence halls, and

Hibbs cafeteria were located right on the court, so the area was always humming with activity. Chalkley House, a men's dorm was on the corner of Shafer and Park, where the building facade still stands in front of the wooden stage.

"I often would make a couple of sandwiches and sit outside on the Hibbs wall and eat. One day during my sophomore year, Dr. Edward Temple, the president of VCU, was strolling out on Shafer Court, and he actually sat down with me and had one of my peanut butter and jelly sandwiches! I was impressed that the president had time to talk with me about my classes and my family.

"I have very fond memories of how easy it was to have a good time at VCU back then. There was always something to do and someone to do it with. You just had to go to Shafer Court to see what was happening to get into. The Court was the center of it all."

Rebecca Shaw '80BA/H&S

# 1980s

"My fondest memories are of the Friday afternoon beer parties. Nora Hendrix, a major recording artist, drew a huge crowd. Shafer was a melting pot of students, townspeople, all races, all types during those gatherings. Everyone was hanging out together having a good time."

**Larry Powell '85BS/MC**

"When I visited VCU as a prospective student, I saw all of the 1980s punks hanging out on Shafer Street. I realized that if they could hang out and be accepted then surely I could come and be welcome too. It was a real statement about the diversity that VCU welcomes."

**Anita Navarro '91BS/MC**

Saw Ben Cornatzer this morning and he told me about the piece that you are working on for the *Shafer Court Connections* about Shafer Court memories. His eyes jumped out of his head when I told him about seeing this wonderful band which was very energetic, very memorable, very wild....it was The Red Hot Chili Peppers. As they went on to become the international phenomena that they have become, I love thinking back to their high energy Friday night performance in Shafer Court.

**Barbara Payton '83BS/MC**

Shafer Court was the heart of VCU. It connected the dormitories, the small Franklin Street Housing units—806,808,TDC, Founders, The Zoo, Sherer Hall—to the cafeteria and the academic buildings.

Every Friday night a select group would check in with **Barbara Payton '83BS/MC**, **Mary Rose Jones '82BS/H&S** and **Veda McMullen '82BS/MC** to learn of parties to attend and places to be seen. I remember some great and not so great bands playing in the Court. I remember hanging off the back fire escape of Chalkley at some of the more popular concerts. The "Ask-It" booth was the reference point to meet people if we separated.

I think back to local VCU "fixtures," there for years. Dika Newlin, D. "Woman, John Mahoney, Leo Simonetta, to name a few.

**Rand Glasscock '81BA/H&S**





## 1990s

"Even when I was in high school, some of us would drive into town for concerts on Shafer Street. Later, all the skateboarders and punk rockers would hang out under the magnolia tree on Shafer between classes. Some of us never made it back to the next class..."

**John Sarvay '91BGS/NTS**

"When I was a freshman, everyone brought their dogs and walked up and down Shafer Court among the skateboarders. It was a real mix of young kids and old Richmond crusty folk who hung around VCU and never left. It was

always an easy thing to catch a show there on Friday night. The Red Hot Chili Peppers played a crazy show because they were so obnoxious and loud. The slam dancers loved them."

**Joe Nio '93BS/B**



JONATHAN MEYER '93BS/B



Search in any  
direction, and  
you'll find VCU  
alumni, doing a  
world of good.

# Hunting

BY JEAN HUETS '80BA/H&S

Sometimes we seem to be living in a place where Nasdaq tips are more fascinating than news of the world around us, where what is on TV is more important than what is outside our doors, and where shopping is given more time than being with friends and family. These VCU alumni don't go there. Literally, they spread across the city, across the country, and across the globe to find their place and purpose in the world. Their stories are a relief from bottom line mentality and an inspiration of real life. All of them live in the place that is Community.

## Taking the Pledge

It's Commencement at Manchester College in Indiana, and something is different. Green ribbons sprout on black gowns of graduates who have made a simple pledge: "I (name) pledge to explore and take into account the social and environmental consequences of any job I consider and will try to improve these aspects of any organizations for which I work." The Johnny Appleseed responsible for those bright dots of hope and the purpose behind them is **Dr. Neil Wollman '78PhD/H&S**, on the psychology faculty at Manchester.



Neil found the Graduation Pledge Alliance quite by chance in a blurb in the back of a magazine, which intrigued him enough to learn more. He became an ardent supporter and has institutionalized the pledge at Manchester, where he has taught for 20 years. Since 1996, Manchester College has coordinated the national effort for the Alliance. Manchester is a natural home for the pledge. Affiliated with the pacifist Church of the Brethren, its Mission Statement maintains, "A central goal of the College community is to create an environment which nurtures . . . a dedication to the service of others, and an acceptance of the demands of responsible citizenship."

"We started the Pledge at Manchester in 1988," Neil says. "It's built up over the years." He coordinates student involvement in the Alliance through internet postings, brochures and networking. "We are trying to get students to think about the pledge from their first year." An impressive 50 percent of Manchester graduates volunteer to take it.

A strength of the pledge is its open-endedness. Most of those who take it are liberal, but some pledgetakers embrace conservative values like anti-abortion activism. "The point is to think about more than the bottom line when making career choices," Neil says. "Part of education should be about values. There are important things beyond just getting a job or making money."

Neil points out that "not everyone has to take the pledge for it to have an overall effect. Over a million people graduate every year. If even a significant minority take and carry out the pledge, it would make a difference. This can become a trend that companies need to think about."

There's only anecdotal evidence of the Pledge's effect, but some of it is pretty impressive. One Manchester graduate spoke to the boss about a chemical warfare project their firm was considering. "I told him about the Pledge and about my concerns. He agreed . . . and the company did not pursue the project." Neil comments, "When I hear examples like this from students, it makes me feel good about it. More schools are joining in, and people seem to think it has merit."

Pursuing his own interpretation of the Pledge, Neil recently resigned from teaching to become a senior fellow at Manchester's Peace Studies Institute, the first program of its kind in the country.

One Institute campaign is pushing the envelope on TIAA-CREF's Social Choice Account (SCA). Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association-College Retirement Equities Fund is the nation's largest private pension system, managing more than \$280 billion in assets for two million employees, mainly in higher education. SCA is the second largest socially responsible fund in the United States.

Since TIAA-CREF added SCA in 1989, it has focused on simply avoiding investments in companies that deal in tobacco, alcohol, nuclear energy, weapons or pollute the environment. The Peace Institute's Social Choice for Social Change campaign wants to shift even a small part of the assets toward "positive investing" in companies and financial institutions that are models of social and environmental responsibility. Although 81 percent of SCA members support that kind of investing, so far TIAA-CREF has not changed the fund. "We spent five years in the 1980s battling to get them to set up the SCA fund," says Neil. "We're keeping up the fight and getting the word out."

Another of Neil's projects at the Peace Studies Institute is designing a violence index that looks beyond individual behaviors like murders, assaults to the violence perpetrated by governments and corporations—pollution and lack of health care. Wollman believes that when it appears in a few months, the Index will raise public awareness and opinion toward holding institutions responsible when they harm people.

Surprisingly, Neil describes his years at VCU as "fairly apolitical." His metamorphosis into an activist, however, did have roots in his psychology studies at VCU and connecting with the American Psychological Association, which offers avenues for social change. "It feels good to be able to do something that has meaning," he says. He encourages VCU staff and graduates to look into the Graduation Pledge Alliance for college students they know.

## New School Ties

**David Norris '63BS/B** has been active in a variety of community causes since his youthful days with the Jaycees, but his heart's work started in a very personal way.

When David's son started school, he wasn't doing well. From teachers, his parents heard the same phrase again and again. "Rob is bright—if he would only try harder . . ." But trying harder was beside the point.

A professional evaluation cleared the picture. Attention difficulties and dyslexia, a learning disability that affects reading, writing and spelling were presenting the challenge—not a lack of diligence. The New Community School for children with learning disabilities was the answer. And when David enrolled his son, in effect, he enrolled himself.

"TNCS made a world of difference," says David. Not only in Rob's academic performance, but in his self-esteem and attitude. His son is grown now, but David, on TNCS Board for 11 years and president-elect, remains devoted to this school and what it does for students. "If it weren't for others putting themselves into it, the school wouldn't have been there for us," he explains.

TNCS is a private, non-profit school founded in





# Good Will?

1974, for grades 6 through 12., Most of the 85 students are local, and many are on scholarships based on financial need. "The teaching is high intensity," says David. "There is one teacher for every four kids." Success is also high. After two or three years at TNCS, many students have the skills to return to a regular classroom. David adds, "These kids are real contributors. They learn in a different way. They need to deal with their weaknesses." Eighty-five percent of TNCS graduates attend college.

The school has grown from its tentative beginnings in local churches to several buildings in Northside Richmond. "It's a real campus now," says David proudly. "Each generation adds to it." The school is now promoting a strong athletic program, an outlet at which dyslexic children tend to excel.

Still, tuition doesn't cover costs, and David has become a fundraiser par excellence. When challenges arise, "All I have to do is go watch the kids there. Who wouldn't want to do it? I started it because of my son, but I've kept it up. A lot of people will keep it going."

David also served on VCU's Alumni Board. "A lot of people worked with me so that I didn't take a long time to graduate. Since then, I've been successful, and I'm paying a debt in both places—for myself and my son. I need to do that, and I try to teach that to my kids."

"We all have to do something, to put something back in the community. After all, we take a lot from it." David's roots in community contribution go back to his Baptist childhood, when tithing to the church was a matter of course. "Stewardship is very meaningful to me. Without it, we might as well hang up our hats."



## Their Whole Life

The lives of **Jim Conner '78BS/E** and **Angela Johnson Conner '80BS/H&S** can't easily be compartmentalized. Their jobs, their religious practice, their home life, even the land they live on, are intertwined. Like the threads of a Navajo blanket, they make a warming whole.

Angela and Jim live at St. Michael's, Arizona, on the Navajo reservation—"the Navajo Nation"—as residents call it. In the twenty-two years they have spent there since they left Richmond, they have been accepted by the people. In turn, they have integrated the values and customs of the Navajo in their hearts.

Jim and Angela met in the early seventies at VCU. Jim was majoring in special education, Angela in anthropology and sociology. Soon after they married, they were ready to make a move. Jim is Irish-Scots American; Angela is part African-American and part Native American. Richmond was not ready for mixed-culture couples in 1978. They had met hard stares, even threatening situations.

Angela, whose mother's people are Chickahominy, wanted to meet other tribes. She connected strongly with the Native American movement in the early seventies. The occupation of Alcatraz, from 1969 to 1971, by a group of Native Americans was a galvanizing event. "As I began at VCU, I had a desire to experience Native American life among a federally recognized people on a Nation," she says. During a civil demonstration called "the Long Walk" on the Washington mall, Angela met someone who spoke about the Navajo people—or Dine' (Dineh), to use the true name of the people. "Dine' people have strong traditions and are very distinct," she explains.

A bit of seventies nonconformity also came into it. "Angela and I wanted to do something different," Jim says with a chuckle. "We had things to prove to ourselves."

A newspaper article about St. Michael's Association for Special Education in Arizona led Jim to apply for a job there. He later earned a master's in school administration at Western New Mexico University, and now he's director of special education at St. Michael's.

The program is under contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and funded partly by donations. Students range from children with severe mental retardation to those with



autism. They come from a 200-mile radius on the Nation, so St. Michael's has both day and residential programs.

"Special ed has intrinsic rewards," says Jim. "It can be exhausting and frustrating, but there's never a dull day." With 65 staff members, Jim manages an educational program for 80 students. St. Michael's has a team of Navajo and non-Navajo teachers and therapists but also operates a para-educator model for Navajo teaching assistants and technicians. The para-educator model provides high levels of training, which broadens opportunities for non-degreed Navajos and is truly one of the foundations of the school.

Another focus is parents. "We try to have as much involvement as possible in order to maintain consistency for the students with home and school."

One of Jim's greatest challenges is staffing. The problem is two-fold: lack of Navajo professionals and the high turnover of non-Navajos. To address both issues, Jim is helping to develop an educational assistance program for Navajo staff.

And he works to help non-Navajo staff adapt to the culture and environment. "It's a big change in lifestyle," he says. "It's extremely rural and isolated." Not everyone wants to live in the high desert, and there are other differences. Although most of the Dine' people are bilingual, many prefer speaking the Dine' language. Living by the clock is challenging on the Nation, because distances are greater in the sparsely populated region.



*"One of my favorite beaches, Kai Iwi Beach along the Tasman Sea near Wanganui."*

Space inside a dwelling is less important than the space around, outside.

Jim himself is keenly aware of differences in culture and lifestyle when he comes back to Virginia to visit his family. The pace is much slower on the Nation—people even speak more quietly. Patience is much more evident. "Here in Richmond, I see people get upset over the smallest matters. The Dine' would never make a scene in public. It's considered disgraceful."

Angela is director of the local United Way, which is governed by a board of volunteers. She has a Master of Public Health from Central Michigan University's satellite program. Her agency serves 26,000 square miles, an area the size of West Virginia. Like many Native Americans confronting a modern world, the Dine' must figure out how to maintain their existence in a changing world, and how to develop economically. "There are many areas that experience severe challenges to economic growth," Angela comments. Her rewards are in helping communities identify and deal with these issues in an organizational environment.

When Jim and Angela first moved out West, they were in much the same situation as the non-Navajos Jim has worked with since. But rather than feeling alienated, Jim and Angela were drawn into the culture. A basic factor that won them over is that they were accepted as they were, not discriminated against because of their cultures. Moreover, "The things I saw in the Dine' were very appealing—their gentle nature," Jim says. "It took a long time to be accepted, but then we were accepted very warmly." One family group in particular became friends and helped them become part of the community.

The Connors' openness to the culture and their work in the community also earned them credibility. Jim and Angela chose to raise their son and three daughters on the Nation, real proof of their dedication to their adopted home and the life they have made together. "It's been an honor to participate in and become a part of the social and religious life here," says Jim. "I've learned a lot. To see the pride that the Dine' have in maintaining the culture inspired us to take pride in our own cultural background."

Angela's awareness of cultural identity, rooted in her family, grew at VCU. Anthropologist Dr. Colin Turnbull taught her "to look at a culture as distinct and self-perpetuating." Dr. Mednick gave Angela the tougher challenge of "stepping outside yourself to look at your own culture." She adds, "Many people have helped me."

Jim looks back especially to Dr. Paul Wehman and Dr. Ada Hill at VCU for the skills and principles in special education that he uses every day. And he remembers a high school teacher, Olivia Garland. "It was the early seventies," he recounts, "and there were a lot of things to set you off course. She told me I had great potential and not to lose sight of that." He realized he had something to offer—and now he shares that encouragement with his students.

"My whole life is an education," Angela reflects. "Originally, I was taught to learn in a linear way and always wondered why I had

problems with that thought process. But through living here, I've learned there are other ways of thinking. I see that things are circular." Though Angela and Jim did not plan that kind of unity for their lives, the natural cycles of life enfold them, reassuringly, like a hand-woven blanket.

## Larry's Choice

Larry Matthews '83BFA has never heard of the Graduation Pledge Alliance, but he lives as though he had taken it. Maybe that's because he heard an earlier version. "I remember Alan Moore, my graphic design teacher at VCU, who used to always ask us if we could work for organizations we did not believe in. For instance, a cigarette company. I have often thought about that comment when approaching companies for employment and in determining what products or ideas I might be working with."

Larry Matthews has carried VCU values all the way to New Zealand, where he teaches art and design at the University of Otago in Dunedin. He also donates his skills to the United Nations Association, Religious Society of Friends (the Quakers), and Operation Peace through Unity (OPTU). "OPTU actually bought a computer so I could produce the work for them and communicate with the webpage designer in the U.K.—which I couldn't have done without their support."

OPTU provides a global networking service to more than 45 countries through the Many to Many quarterly newsletter and through its website. OPTU also initiates and works on a variety of projects and campaigns for peace and justice. The United Nations Association educates, campaigns and fundraises to help turn U.N. ideals into reality. The UNA is also a

## School of Social Work says YES

A handful of VCU social work students and faculty spent a 1999 new year in a way they will never forget. A team of seven students and five faculty traveled to Belize City in Central America to lay a solid foundation for some of the country's most needy youth.

The team's mission was to build a 30-by-60 foot classroom for Youth Enhancement Services (YES), a nongovernmental organization providing alternative educational choices to adolescent girls dealing with multiple hardships like learning disabilities, poverty, pregnancy and abuse.

Under the able direction of faculty builder Dr. Robert Peay (photo), although with inadequate tools and limited resources ("No backhoe!"), the team dug the new foundation, built in steel girders and repaired existing structures. Another group returned at spring break this year to finish the building.

"For our students, service in a foreign culture reflects the social work ideals of learning about the struggles of people living at the margins of society and helping those in poverty to improve the quality of their lives," says Randi Buerlein, director of the School's student services.

The teams visited agencies including a child abuse prevention program, a teen pregnancy center, and a substance abuse program, to learn



more about how the country was attacking social problems. Students were struck by the power of community, faith and dignity.

"We traveled to a country of extreme poverty, lack of adequate housing, health care or education," said student Mary Steelman. "In the midst of hopelessness and despair, I saw glimpses of a brighter future in the laughter and smiles of the children."

Graduate student Sarah Coggins reaffirmed her commitment to "social justice and the need to look at the deeper roots of poverty, both within the U.S. and around the world."

Project coordinators were international organizations Peacework and ForCHILDREN and the School of Social Work. The School will send another team to Guyana, South America in January 2001.

watchdog to make sure that the U.N. is used effectively, efficiently and creatively in all the regions where it works.

Larry explains, "The work for the United Nations is quite standard and straight to the point." There is little funding for producing elaborate pieces, so communication is down to earth and simple. "I often suggest at least a simple, easy-to-read typeface and a classic approach to design. There is nothing extraordinary about any of the work I've produced for these organizations, although I try to make things as readable and interesting as possible."

Larry's logos for these organizations appear on newsletters, posters, brochures, webpage designs and direct mail. Larry came to the work through personal contacts and membership in the UNA, and friends of the founders of OPTU. His posters for the Friends have spread his reputation as a socially conscious artist.

As he thinks through designs, Larry draws on his personal connection with these organizations, and there lies the heart of his work. "Because of my own interest in peace, the environment and other areas, I've been able to help the two organizations as needed. My own involvement is how I get to understand the requirements of the task."

When OPTU came to him to create a logo, they had an idea, a logo they had devised. "I tried to incorporate a new look based on brushstrokes similar to Oriental Zen painting. That organization is simple in structure and very down to earth, yet, with a very spiritual mindset—grassroots with universality, perhaps. The symbol required many, many brushstrokes of 'getting it right' so it felt right. They ended up choosing the one I thought was also the best out of many, many suggestions—it just spoke to us."

Larry's choices continue to follow his personal convictions. "Deciding to work for peace and other social issues is more important to me than remuneration." The reward? "A sense of personal satisfaction that I might be helping out, even in a small way."

## Another Planet, Same World

Stacie Vecchietti's '94BSW '95MSW Peace Corps assignment was formidable. She was to go into a prison in Belize and design and implement a substance abuse program. "As a foreigner, it was a challenge," she says. The people there had a preconceived notion of Americans.



Making a "fly-brush" to keep mosquitos away.



Stacie Vecchietti and Mac McFarlane met and married in Belize and live in Richmond. Stacie is director of the Victim Crisis Center at the Quin Rivers Agency in eastern rural Virginia, and Mac will be a certified firefighter in Chesterfield County by the middle of June.

The fact that Stacie's job had been mandated by the Belize government didn't give her a lot of clout. "The idea of rehabilitation versus punishment in prison was met with resistance," she says. The institution simply did not have the support in place for Stacie's mission. Ideally, Stacie would have had a building available for recovery. It wasn't there. She adapted, and implemented a "nonintensive out-patient program."

"It was very frustrating at times," she admits. The lack of resources meant that she had to start from the ground up in building her program. Moreover, although the people of Belize are English-speaking, it is a Creole version that is effectively another language. When she needed a car for her work, the agency's had manual transmission—not part of her Peace Corps training.

Fortunately, she met not only challenges, but help. A young Belizan firefighter, Archibald McFarlane (Belize was definitely a British colony), taught her to drive a stick shift. (The director of drug abuse programs and the chief of the fire department were brothers.) She spent a lot of time with his family, who helped her learn the dialect. And plenty of time with Mac. Stacie and Mac married in Belize on July 24, 1999.

The Narcotics Anonymous program begun in the prison with books and information from sister groups in the U.S. was the first in the country. Slowly, Stacie got into place groups of 15 to 20 inmates. A six-month psycho-educational program covered topics like managing stress and anger, relapse, and staying clean. She also trained four parole officers and a woman prison employee to facilitate the groups. The five had no formal training, but they had "talent" as Stacie puts it. Building a support system for the recovering abusers and belief in themselves was the order of the day.

The work itself was challenging enough. Then there was culture and heat shock. Stacie was from Springfield, a prosperous suburb in Northern Virginia. In Belize she encountered poverty and physical discomfort on a scale she

had never seen. She had asked the Peace Corps for an assignment in a cool climate. She got tropical Belize City. The heat was overwhelming, as were the smells in the prison. "What kept me going was my little fan," she laughs. And she knew "this will end; it's only a two-year assignment."

Mac put things in perspective for her. As an officer who trained fire department employees, he made only slightly more than she did with her Peace Corp stipend. She said to him once, "This is the poorest I've ever been." He responded, "This is the richest I've ever been."

Stacie did not meet the surprises of Belize completely unprepared. In her first VCU social work internship, she was a case worker at The Daily Planet, a Richmond community center for homeless and poor men and women. "That first day, I was so scared walking in there, a white girl from Springfield."

Her first client was a woman who was HIV positive, in an abusive relationship, and prostituting herself to maintain a crack addiction. As Stacie talked with her she made mental notes: get the woman under medical care, develop a program for the substance abuse . . . When they met again, Stacie presented her plan. "She let me wind myself down," Stacie says, "and then she said, 'If I could just get some food.' That was my first lesson in starting where the client is."

At The Daily Planet, Stacie says simply, "I got broken." She stopped seeing the differences between herself and her clients and started seeing the humanness. "I'll always be grateful for that experience. Each experience I had through school inched my blinders out a little more."

VCU is a crossroads, a starting point. Our alumni take what they've learned, across the city or across the seas. They talk about "giving back," of repaying the help that was given to them. But every one of them would say they are still "getting back." As David Norris says of his stewardship, "I'm doing things that I like to do." This is another kind of investment, and the returns are tremendous. It's not laying up treasure in Nasdaq, or even in heaven. It's living in vital, treasured moments, here (or there) and now.

Graduation Pledge Alliance, Social Choice for Social Change [www.manchester.edu](http://www.manchester.edu) and go to the search engine.

Peace Corps Current needs are volunteers with experience or interest in business development, agriculture, environmental education, forestry, as well as certified teachers. English teachers or French speakers. [www.peacecorps.gov](http://www.peacecorps.gov) (800) 424-8580.

OPTU [www.angelfire.com/journal/brooke2000/](http://www.angelfire.com/journal/brooke2000/)

Jean Huets is a graphic artist, writer and editor in Richmond.

# FROM THESE ROOTS

## *The African American Alumni Council Celebrates 10 Years*

BY LINNIE CARTER '93BS'98MS/MC

A typical 10-year-old is eager to learn, yearning to grow, impressionable yet impressive and on the brink of developing long-term directions. The VCU African American Alumni Council celebrates its 10th anniversary this academic year. We are learning, we are growing, making new connections and moving toward adult responsibilities.

### **Root and Branch**

Bruce Twyman '74BS/MC and the other founders of the Council envisioned an organization that would serve as a rallying point for the concerns of African-American alumni and students. "There was no real representation of our interests and no one to speak for us effectively. We needed to re-establish links between VCU and African-American alumni," explains Twyman, who has just finished his second term as a member of the VCU Alumni Association Board. "We are also looking outward," adds Gail Robinson '82MPA/H&S, the Council's second president, "to increase support for VCU from African-American alumni."

The dream became a reality, and 10 years later, it has become a great deal more. In 1989, the Council counted membership of only 20 to 30 alumni, and the University claimed only 3,519 African-American graduates. In spring of 2000, there are 347 Council members. Since 1989, almost 4,000 more African Americans have graduated from VCU. In 1999-2000, more than 4,330 African-American students found their collegiate home at VCU. These students—past and present—embody the Council's purpose and mission.

### **More Than Fun and Games**

When alumni hear "African American Alumni Council," they immediately think "Reunion Weekend." Surely Reunion festivities are the most popular and visible presence of the Council. At Reunion 2000, the Friday night Annabel Lee cruise drew a sellout crowd of 350 under the stars on the river. The Saturday afternoon cookout brought reminiscing alumni and their families, and the fun culminated with the traditional Saturday evening dance.

But Reunion Weekend is only one of many events and projects the Council sponsors to promote its goals. The Council supports VCU by

- instilling pride among African-American alumni

## AFRICAN-AMERICAN IMPACT

VCU's African American alumni have a tremendous impact on our shared world. Here are three of them, as well as a profile of Robert Grey Jr. on page 32. The sidebar lists more—and we've missed hundreds.

### **"Away from Her Desk"**

It took two months to catch up with Monique Braxton '81BS'84MS/MC. When the overnight anchor and correspondent for MSNBC is "away from her desk," she's on location around the country and the world.

Her reporting at MSNBC has covered the way the eastern seaboard weathered the "Winter of '98 and the deployment of American fighter pilots to the Persian Gulf during Operation "Desert Fox."

Braxton began her career as the weekend weather reporter for WTVR in Richmond. From 1995 to 1997, Braxton anchored a variety of programs on NewsChannel 8 in Washington, including Smart Women, Daytime Talk, and The Rush Hour Report. In 1996, Braxton garnered an Emmy nomination for her anchoring, and she won the



Best Public Affairs Award for her documentary, "Who We Are: Military." She has also received several civic awards for interviews with national, state, and local officials.

VCU helped prepare Braxton for success. "I learned the basic elements of news, news writing, broadcasting style, editing, breathing techniques, and how to present a story. VCU gave me hands-on experience and on-the-job training."

Her energy and enthusiasm were evident from the beginning as she plunged into student life, enjoying everything from "singing in the Black Awakening Choir, learning to wash my own clothes, and pledging Delta Sigma Theta."

One way she stays connected to "my wonderful sisters" and VCU is through Council events and mentoring. "I find that aspiring young journalists can learn from the experiences that I've had. I've realized that competition is stiff, and sometimes it doesn't matter where you went to school but who you know and how you apply the skills you've gained." To keep learning, she advises, "Go on vacations and see how your neighbors live. Your way of life isn't the only way to live. Take the time to meet a stranger, fan or colleague."



- inspiring alumni to join and become actively involved in the Council
- serving as a campus advocate for its VCU African-American constituents
- promoting the growth, progress and general welfare of the VCU African-American student body
- contributing to the recruitment and retention of African-American students
- and becoming an important presence in the African-American community.

Building on the leadership of her predecessors, Council President **Michelle McQueen '83BS/B** is a staunch advocate. Everywhere she goes, whatever the occasion, venue or audience, she recruits people to the Council, talking up its activities and accomplishments.

The most important people to any university are its students; their success is the point of the enterprise. For McQueen, "the Council's commitment to VCU's current African-American students is its most significant purpose. There are many ways the AAAC helps to recruit students, makes them feel welcome, and makes sure they stay in school to graduate."

### Funding Young Leaders

Two new scholarships for VCU African-American students testify to how much the Council has progressed during the past 10 years.

The first VCU African American Alumni Council Leadership Scholarship, for a student on the Academic Campus who demonstrates leadership, community service and academic success, went to freshman Kina Harding this March. A criminal justice major, Kina says, "One day I am going to be a Supreme Court Judge." She's on her way, with a 4.0 GPA and freshman activities ranging from tutoring kids to vice president of the student chapter of

Braxton's whole-hearted approach to life is grounded in a strong faith, born out for her this year. She recently married Shawn Fordham, who is special assistant to the mayor of Philadelphia, where they live. "Life is so short that you must share your unconditional love with family and friends," she says earnestly. "Professionally and personally, this has been a time of remarkable growth."

### Big Difference, 0 Disparities

**Dr. Regan Crump '78BS/N** is a good man in a crisis. Commander Crump, as a member of the U.S. Public Health Service medical team, helped provide patient care in St. Croix after Hurricane Hugo in 1989, and again in 1995, after Hurricane Marilyn. Crump was chief nurse for the PHS disaster medical assistance team and served on the management team in the Virgin Islands.

A 1995 Alumni Star from the School of Nursing, Crump has been in public health for 23 years. Now acting deputy director of the Bureau



***Sisters in Touch.** More than 100 sisters of VCU's Eta Tau Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. celebrated 30 years at VCU, at Reunion 2000. They started the millennium right by donating \$300 to the VCU AAAC Merit Scholarship Fund, a sum VCU matched. It shows, said Michelle Dixon Jones '87BS/H&S, that "we hold true to Delta's founding principles: scholarship, sisterhood and community service."*

NAACP, VCU's Student Government Association, Pre-Law Society and the National Society of Black Engineers. —Engineers? "I've always liked math and science, and I wanted to make as many connections as possible."

The Council has raised more than \$11,000 to fund this scholarship. We have begun a second campaign for the VCU African American Alumni Council Merit Scholarship, to be awarded every year to a full-time African-American freshman on the Academic Campus. The scholarship, based on academic achievement, will be renewable for three years if the student remains in good academic standing. The goal is to raise between \$10,000 and \$25,000 by June 30. The University will match the total dollar-for-dollar, up to \$25,000.

### Each One, Reach One

The Council's investment in students reaches beyond financial assistance. African Americans in the Class of 2003 met the Council last summer at the freshman cookout sponsored by the VCU Academic Success Center. Over hot dogs and chips in Gladding Residence Hall courtyard, **Eric Williams '96BGS/NTS**, then Council vice president, and Linnie Carter, now incoming Council president, discussed AAAC and its mission, and urged freshmen Rams to join at graduation.

The Council has sponsored career development workshops where VCU students can learn about cooperative education and internship opportunities, electronic resources, and easing



of Primary Health for the PHS, he returns soon to directing the Division of Programs for Special Populations.

"I enjoy work that makes a difference on a large scale," Crump says. "I work with community-based organizations, public and private, funding primary health care delivery sites for underserved populations. We provide grants, technical assistance, and many other types of support."

Crump's mother was a nurse, his father a laboratory technician. In nursing Crump says, "I could combine my interest in the sciences with the enjoyment I found in working with people to make a difference.

"I chose MCV because it was a state school, close to my hometown, and a large teaching institution. The impact of being in the city was substantial—it was reality." His work as a nursing student in MCV Hospital's burn unit was "emotionally painful," but invaluable. "I will never forget caring for people with such sudden and extensive physical devastation. It was amazing the way nurses and other staff supported both patients and one another."

In 1993, Crump changed his career focus to large populations and earned his Doctor of Public Health in health policy and management from Johns Hopkins University. Crump's healthy pragmatism zeroes

the transition from classroom to work-place. Many Council members offer internships and networking opportunities for students and recent graduates.

VCU student Thomas Simmons came to last September's Council meeting to thank members for supporting his participation in the Brotherman Retreat. The Council sponsored Simmons

and two other students at the event, a community effort developed by Richmond community leaders and Council members. Encounters and bonding with other African-American men, an inspirational movie, and a presentation from the Richmond NAACP expressed the theme of the spring retreat—Communion and Culture. An enthusiastic Simmons talked about his experience, where "I learned a deeper understanding of the role—and the responsibilities—of African-American men."

McQueen is emphatic that the Council must and will continue to invest in VCU's African-American students. "The most important lesson in life that I learned is that you don't do anything alone," she says. "There is always someone or something that helps you to succeed, and I believe that we as VCU graduates should help those students coming behind us to succeed."



PHOTOGRAPH BY JERROLD

*Word. These high school students got some good advice about careers and fine preparation at VCU when AAAC members did a community service recruiting project Reunion Weekend, 2000.*

### **"Partnership for the Future"**

The Council theme for 1999-2000 is "Partnership for the Future," and the Council has been cultivating relationships with University divisions that share its passion and mission.

For two years, the Council has joined VCU's African American Studies Program for "Black History in the Making." The February celebration honors high-achieving African-American students, faculty and alumni—like this year's Outstanding African American Alumna, J.B. Bryan, profiled in this issue.

The Council has participated in the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs' Minority Graduation Ceremony for two years. This, too, is a chance for the Council to educate new alumni about the benefits—and obligations—of being a VCU alum. As part of the festivities, the graduates were offered free membership in the

Council. Last year an impressive number—106—took advantage of the opportunity.

"These partnerships with students and other organizations are important," says past Council president Gail Robinson. The Council should continue to focus on students, particularly on recruitment and retention. "While it is important to build an alumni base, it is also important to target the students. We must get them while they're here."

This past November, as part of the University's Founders Day celebration, the Council greeted VCU's new Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Roderick McDavis, with a special reception. For many, this event was an introduction to the Council as well. "I'm delighted by this welcome," said McDavis, "and it's wonderful to see this event bringing VCU students, faculty, staff and alumni together."

Working with University divisions is important, but the Council's essential partners are alumni. For the Council to continue its mission, it must continue to recruit new members. It has added almost 100 new members in the past year, thanks to the efforts of Council leadership, its special programs and partnerships. The Council's growing website and a new online newsletter are spreading the word and increasing membership.

New Council member Nina Goodwyn '93BS/MC says, "I am always impressed by the exciting news about my alma mater—in clear view from my office windows in downtown Richmond. I believe the AAAC will give me an opportunity to become more involved with VCU students, faculty and other alumni. It's fulfilling to learn more about a place that I consider my second home."

in on the possible. He has implemented primary health care policy, program expansion, and technical assistance for more than 2,000 neighborhood sites nation wide. "I try to keep measurable outcomes in sight. It is better to make progress than to worry about perfection."

Accepting his Alumni Star award in 1995, Crump thanked "the people who taught me what primary care is all about. I want to thank the homeless for teaching me what it's like to live without a place to store food or a way to clean up. I want to thank the migrant workers for teaching me about modern-day slavery."

He challenged his fellow alumni and VCU faculty then to think about diversity. "Not just cultural but socio-economic diversity. National trends are against welfare, against Medicaid, opposed to immigrants. Health and social disparities may get worse if we don't start to turn things around."

Regan Crump is currently a leader in the national Campaign for 100 % Access and 0 Disparities. He and his colleagues partner with a host of national and state organizations to support this movement, growing community by community. The goal is to bring health care to everyone and eliminate measurable differences in health status outcomes based on race, culture and socio-economic status.



Crump urges alumni, "Be an advocate. Speak up for the underserved."

### **When J.B. Bryan Talks ...**

J.B. Bryan '92MS/MC is fluent in the language of money. Only eight years after VCU graduation, Bryan heads her own investment firm with offices in Richmond and D.C., serves on the board of the Greater Richmond Chamber of Commerce, and teaches at Virginia Union University's Sydney Lewis School of Business. She offers thorough, plainspoken business

advice as the financial analyst for WRIC-Channel 8, and on the Bryan Business Report on WSOJ-FM.

Profiled by the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* in 1998, Bryan said, "I always wanted to study communications and be on television, but my father encouraged me to study business." She took his advice, earning a double major in finance and accounting at the School of Commerce at the University of Virginia.

# AFRICAN AMERICAN ALUMNI ACT

## For Us, By Us

The VCU African American Alumni Council is blossoming, flourishing and maturing before our eyes as it takes its rightful place among the University's most productive support groups. Of predominately white universities in Virginia, VCU boasts the largest African-American student body. The Council's bridge-building to these students carries benefits not only to them, but to all of us.

We are proud of our first 10 years, and look forward to building our students, our alumni and the University even more in the next ten. We need all alumni, but especially African-American alumni, to support the Council and African-American students. If not us, then who?

To join the African American Alumni Council, use the form on page 40 or check the website. Part of the dues from every membership goes to the scholarship fund, so by simply joining the Council you support students. For information about Council activities and scholarships, call **Larry Powell** '85BS/MC at (804) 828-2586, email at [aaac@vcu.edu](mailto:aaac@vcu.edu) or check website: [http://www.alumni.vcu.edu/AAAC/aa\\_alumni\\_council.html](http://www.alumni.vcu.edu/AAAC/aa_alumni_council.html)

*Linnie Carter "grew up at VCU," first as a student and then for six years as PR specialist for VCU Libraries before becoming community affairs coordinator for the Richmond Metropolitan Authority. Her term as president of the VCU African American Alumni Council begins July 1, 2000.*

**Thelma Bland** '88MS(G)/AH former Commissioner of Virginia's Department for the Aging \* **Jeannette Drake** '76 MSW '91MFA/H&S poet and artist \* **Lisa Edwards-Burrs** '83BM international opera singer \* **Rex Ellis** '74BFA curator and chair of American cultural history at the Smithsonian Museum \* **Daniel Gill** '71BS/B former director of the office of minority business for the U.S. Secretary of Defense \* **Cleve Francis** '73MD cardiologist and country singer \* **Ben Hamlin** '82BS/MC sportscaster, Jefferson Pilot Broadcasting \* **Dr. Grace Harris** '60MSW VCU provost and academic vice president 1992-99, acting VCU president Summer, 1995 \* **Dr. Jean Harris** '55MD retired president, Ramey Medical Foundation, community health activist, Minnesota \* **Anita Josey-Herring** '82BA/H&S Superior Court judge, District of Columbia \* **Kevin Johnson** '86BS/B manages information technology contracts for Seagram, Polygram Records, and Universal Studios \* **W. Randolph Johnson** '89BS/H&S Richmond City Council, Hanover County Zoning Inspector \* **Agymah Kamau** '92MFA/H&S novelist Pictures of a Dying Man, others \* **Michelle Mitchell** '84BS/H&S Sheriff, City of Richmond \* **Dawn Alston Paige** '87BS/MC financial expert and writer, Black Enterprise magazine and elsewhere \* **DrPH Ron Peters** '91BS(HA) '94MS(G)/AH faculty associate, University of Texas School of Public Health; principal investigator of the Houston Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring Program, funded by National Institute of Justice \* **Robert Pratt** '80BA/H&S associate professor of history at University of Georgia, The Color of their Skin: Education and Race in Virginia, other books and papers \* **Jay Sharpe** '90BFA jewelry designer to stars like Lauryn Hill, Deborah Cox \* **Sabrina Squire** '76BS/H&S Richmond news anchor and community leader \*

**A list like this can't possibly be complete. Write and tell us who else should be here.**

In 1992, Bryan went to work for Wheat First Butcher Singer and became a broker. She soon set off to build her own firm, using her own savings and credit cards, and applying her Wheat First experience. Now J.B. Bryan (the firm) specializes in asset management and protection services.

"I've never had a job with a salary," she said. "I always had commission-based jobs. My income has always been based on my performance." She credits her confidence to her belief. "I have so much faith," she said. "You can't do your best work with fear in your heart"

A self-described workaholic, Bryan explains, "This is my only responsibility, to make my clients happy. It's my baby," she continues. "I have to burp it, rock it, get up in the middle of the night to check on it, embrace it and let it know I love it." Although her firm is relatively new, she has more than 400 clients and manages more than \$10 million. Her average client has \$100,000 in assets under management, but Bryan is willing to work with a minimum investment of \$1,000.

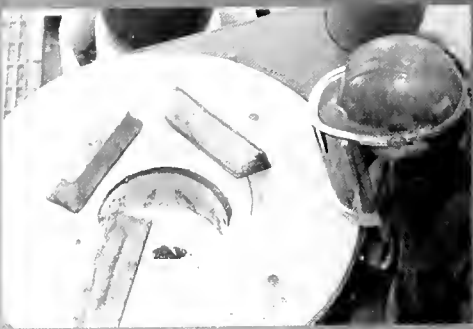
"I hate turning people away. I try to keep our minimum investment low so everyone can take advantage of professional financial assistance." Her clients praise her as hardworking, dedicated and approachable. To further help her community, Bryan also offers finan-

cial seminars, where she explains investments and finances with welcome lucidity and clarity. When J.B. Bryan talks, people don't just listen, they understand.

The community recognizes her contributions. Virginia Heroes, Inc. named Bryan a Virginia Hero, and the Metropolitan Business and Professional Woman's Club honored her as Outstanding Woman of the Year. VCU's African American Alumni Council named her Outstanding Alumna for 2000.

"I'm committed to educating people," Bryan says, and she obviously enjoys unveiling the mysteries of finance. "My goal is to help a lot of people make a lot of money and have a lot of fun. I can't imagine doing anything else."

*Jeff Landon* '85BA/H&S edited and expanded these profiles. He's writing a novel, and riding herd on his daughters, Maggie, 9, and Emma 5.



### Foundry Pour: The Art Process

The old gas furnace took three hours to heat up. The new induction furnace sends an electrical current through the bronze, heating it to 2300° in 35 minutes. It's cleaner than the old way, because it's faster. With a much shorter time, the alloys don't turn to gas and make excess fumes.

Temperature control is much better than the old furnace. In the bottom photo, pour technician Patti Beachley and a sculptor check the pyrometer.



BY EDWIN SLIPEK JR. '74BFA

Students new to VCU are finding an academic campus radically evolved from what their predecessors knew.

For decades, classes were often held in awkward Franklin Street garrets and cramped carriage houses. Basketball games were scheduled around such annual Richmond Coliseum attractions as the Barnum & Bailey circus. Hibbs' basement bookstore was boutique-size. And parking was always iffy (well, some things don't change).

The environment, however, is fast changing. With the recently completed, 114,000-square foot Fine Arts Building joining the new Siegel Center and the combined bookstore/parking garage across the street, ambitious construction has transformed West Broad Street, just west of Belvidere, from a faded commercial strip into a formidable university corridor. These projects also pull the campus northward from mostly residential Oregon Hill and the Fan District.

By extending the campus along the aging commercial and industrial strip of Broad, university leaders were faced with an interesting architectural challenge—whether to build the new structures in a

consistent, signifying style, or to approach each building as its own design statement.

Perhaps wisely, the university took the latter course. Although all three buildings make a strong horizontal statement, each reflects its context. Rather than impose an institutional brand on the fragile, adjacent industrial and Carver neighborhood, VCU is attempting to sensitively reweave the faded and torn urban fabric.

Siegel gives a nod to the Arts and Crafts-styled former Capital Garage across the street—the garage will soon be apartments, but the façade stays. The new bookstore/parking deck has a decidedly industrial take. And the \$15.7 million Fine Arts Building, designed by architects Perkins and Will of New York and the Rancon Wildman firm of Newport News, expresses





# CONNECTS!



a handsome and efficient early 21st century aesthetic. The big news is that in both its form and function, this building makes art connect.

"We had lived in depressed conditions for 20-odd years," says James Miller, professor of painting and printmaking. (The Theresa Pollak Building opened in 1970.) "It's nice to have sculpture, crafts and painting and printmaking together under one roof. The benefit over the long-term is that there's going to be synergy between disciplines."

Crafts major Laura Jensen, a junior from Portsmouth, agrees. "Now we can see the work of other students, we can see what other classes are doing and we can see teachers more frequently." Hesitating for a second, she adds with a laugh, "And they can check up on you."

The building's mass all but consumes the structure's elongated footprint at the northeast corner of Broad and Hancock Streets. It has no sidewalk setback. A straightforward, taut, mostly red-brick skin wraps the three-story building. Generous window openings are not recessed but mesh the building's sleek epidermis on

three sides. And there are surprises. The swooped roof line on the building's western end and the cantilevered canopy over the front door break the building's boxy regularity. The swooping roof breaks the traditional

roofline to let daylight flow into the building's top floor.

"The light in the studios is incredible," says **Brian Maltby '99BFA**, a graduate printmaker. All of the painting studios have pure, desirable north light. As an undergraduate, Maltby says, "I had studio classes in three different places. We were always crowded and the ventilation was poor." In some studios, pigeons had even come home to roost. (Which suggests a possible serendipitous Jackson Pollock influence.) "There is also a cleanliness to the place," he adds, perhaps gratefully.

Most important, Maltby says, working space has increased dramatically. "Not only is there more room for existing equipment, but room for new equipment, like lithography presses."

"This place is ten times better than what we had before!" enthuses sculpture major Morgan Kennedy. "Not only is there new equipment, but things are consolidated and more convenient." Like other late-night artists, he also appreciates the enhanced security.

Also new to these departments is the sense of camaraderie the building offers, not just between painting and printmaking, sculpture and crafts majors, but among fellow departmental majors.

"There's a sense of community among students that wasn't here before," says Jim Meyer, acting chair of the Crafts Department, who has taught at VCU since 1973. "Previously, a ceramics student, for instance, wouldn't even know a metals student. Discipline to discipline, we rarely ever got together. Now you can walk down the hall and see what's going on."

Sculpture chair Joe Seipel agrees that "casual interaction has been very good;

there's a gathering space where people can smoke and drink Pepsi and talk about their work." The links cross campus as well. An undergraduate course in electromechanical Systems combines faculty and students from engineering and sculpture.

Even farther afield, Seipel points out sculpture and painting and printmaking's 1999-2000 lecture series of artists, writers and critics. The New Virginia Review and VCU's Creative Writing MFA program have shared artists with this series. The 36 artists and groups are interdisciplinary, multicultural and international. "We have installation artist Ann Hamilton, who is representing the U.S. at the Venice Biennale;



Russian émigré artists Komar & Melamid; African curator Okwui Enwezor; Chinese artist Pun Xing Lei; internationally exhibiting painter David Reed; poet and art critic John Ashbery; Harvard English professor Philip Fisher; Kim Foster, owner of the New York gallery where 11 recent sculpture MFAs had a highly successful show in summer 1999.





Fiery orange molten bronze is poured into pre-heated molds. Bronze is about \$2 lb., and these sculptures from Lester Van Winkle's undergraduate class weigh about 30 lbs each.

Foundry pour photography by *Allen Beland '97MFA, VCU Media Services.*

New chair of painting and printmaking, Richard Roth observes, "there's a lot of confusion in the art world right now. You can't just paint your way out of it. You



need to talk and think. So you want crossover. And we need theory, critics and writers as well as painters."

The mix in the building, he continues, "reflects what's happening in the

art world. The boundaries are blurring. The art may be video. Or an artist manipulates a painting in the computer and then makes a print. We want to be part of that. The university should reflect that excitement. And we are doing it."

If the building brings students together, it also links up well with the rest of the campus. Unlike many modernist buildings where it is difficult to find the front door, here the main entrance is announced triumphantly. An extended, sweeping arch above the second floor proclaims the general area of entry. In a terrific gesture of urban contextualism, the architects also took full advantage of the site by placing this arch on axis with Shafer Street, creating a heroic terminus to the three-block long avenue that has long been the heart of the academic campus.

The plate glass front of the generously-spaced lobby brings art to sidewalk passers-by with rotating exhibits of student work. Artists need audiences, and small galleries off the lobby and wide hallways provide more chances to exhibit. The long central concourses run east-west on each level, connecting administrative and faculty offices with studios—generous, excellent spaces for painting, printmaking, and creating jewelry or ceramics. There are also state-of-the-art craft studios, furniture-making studios, woodworking spaces and

computer and video editing rooms. The technologically advanced induction furnace in the new foundry is safer and heats far faster. Even an undergrad class has access to a weekly pour to see their sculptures made and sometimes participate under the careful and expert direction of foundry technician **Patti Beachley '96MFA**. There are five critique rooms, 12 individual studios for graduate sculpture majors, and 15 for graduate students in painting and printmaking.

The interiors, with concrete floors, painted cinderblock walls and Spartan departmental and faculty offices were designed by KSA Interiors of Richmond. Inside and out, the building reads clearly as a factory for making art. Leaders of the Bauhaus, an early 20th century German design school and movement that advocated multifaceted designers working under one roof, would approve.

The School of the Arts has needed this space for a long time and the building befits a program ranked as one of the nation's top 20 art schools—with graduate sculpture ranked in the top five. "Frankly, it's one of the reasons I chose to come to VCU," says Roth, who left Ohio State to come here. "It's one of the best, if not the best university studio facility in the nation."

Recalling the years of planning that went into the building design, Meyer of crafts comments, "Architecturally, it's been interesting, because you could visualize what it was going to be. But it's different when you live in it. And it's very successful."

*Edwin Slipek Jr. writes regularly on architecture and urban design for Richmond's Style Weekly and other regional publications. He is also active on VCU's Alumni Board.*



*Photography by Allen Jones '82 BFA'92MFA, VCU Media Services*

# ALUMNET

\*Member of the VCU Alumni Association

## 1930s

**Dorothy (Jenks) Fox '35C/SW** is the National Hospice Volunteer of the Year for 1999. A Hospice volunteer for 18 years, Dorothy provides bereavement counseling to families and is involved in several other activities.

## 1940s

**\*Anne (Rosenburg) Fischer '44MSW** is one of the Richmond YWCA's 10 Outstanding Women of 2000 in the category of human relations. She has fought for all minorities offering her skills in social work through the US State Department, International Education Exchange Service, Public Family Welfare Services, the Virginia Department of Education, the University of Virginia and the German Federal Government's Victor Gollanex Foundation.

## 1950s

**\*Charles Boardman '58BS/B** is a volunteer for several local, state and national organizations. He volunteers with Elderhostel in Boston and the Montana State Historical Preservation Association. He is co-chair of the Public Education Committee for the Florida Coalition for Optimal Mental Health and Aging. Charles also chairs the long-range planning committee for the Better Living for Seniors Consortium and serves on the advisory committee of the new Kinship Care Center at the University of South Florida School of Social Work. He has won several awards with these organizations as well. He has two sons and lives in Pinellas County, FL.

**\*Janice (Coomber) Haag '59BS/H&S** is a bookkeeper for the Yosemite Credit Union in Yosemite, CA. She and her husband, Donald, have two children, Heidi and Jon, and twin grandsons.

They closed their Winsor Farm Bed and Breakfast in September, 1998, after 12 years.

**\*Robert Lindholm '50BS/H&S** has been an open-wheel racing Timing and Scoring official since 1966, at the INDY 500 and in CART. He has been in the Indy Racing League since 1996. May 2000 marks his 35th Indy 500. Robert will work IRL races at Disneyworld, Atlanta, Louisville, and Dallas-Fort Worth this year. He was inducted into the INDY 500 Oldtimers Club in 1997.

**\*Chester Packard '57BFA** is a retired art and earth science teacher for Richmond Public Schools. He and his wife, Isabelle have five children, three girls and two boys.

## 1960s

**John Barber '69BFA** is a maritime artist who works in oils and sketches. He describes the water as "just magical." Because of his accurate depictions, J. Russell Jinishian, a leading authority on contemporary marine art, calls Barber "the premier chronicler of Chesapeake Bay life." Barber was one of 13 artists commissioned to paint the White House for a year 2000 calendar. In 1985, he was commissioned by the National Geographic Society to create an original oil painting for President Reagan. He lives in Richmond with his wife, **Kathleen (Haller) Barber '67BS/B** and two children. The Barber Gallery is also in Richmond.

**Beverly Brookshire '68BFA** is the FDIC ombudsman for the New York regional area including NY, NJ, DL, PA and MD. She recently completed a walking tour of southwestern Turkey, visiting several archaeological sites.

**Sheila (Batsche) Melton '69BFA** recently gave a program about "Colonial Dolls." She teaches classes on doll-making

and makes dolls to order. She lives in Spotsylvania, VA.

**Marshall Murdaugh '63BFA** is executive director of the Atlantic City Convention and Visitors Authority and vice chair of the association of Travel Marketing Executives (ATME). He has received several awards, including the Atlas Award for Career Achievement from ATME and State Travel Director of the Year. Marshall has been a stage actor, television producer, soldier, disc jockey and PR manager. He was state director of tourism for Virginia for 13 years beginning in 1970, when he helped develop the "Virginia is for Lovers" campaign. He was also an adjunct faculty member at VCU for seven years. He and his wife, Anita have two sons and a grandson, Tyler.

**\*O. Scott Leath '69BS/B** is the new president of the Virginia Press Association. He is senior vice president and business manager of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* and has worked with Richmond Newspapers Inc. and Media General Inc. for 32 years.

**\*O. Ralph Puccinelli '64BS '69MS/B** was named to the All-American Team of The American Funds Group of mutual funds. He is president of Chartered Financial Planning, Association in Richmond, where he has worked since 1983, and Financial Accounting Services, Ltd. with offices in Louisa, Richmond, and Farmville. He holds the CLU, ChFC and CPA/PFS designations. He lives with his wife, **\*Mary (Johnson) Puccinelli '64BS/E** in Richmond.

**Peter Ring '68BFA '82MFA** is an illustrator of wildlife, hunting, fishing, and the outdoor world in general. His work appears frequently in *Virginia Wildlife* and in the book, *Why Dogs Do That*, by Tom Davis.

**L. Jim Ryan '67BS/E** retired from Newport News Public Schools in 1996 after 30 years as an athletic administrator. He worked on ranches in Colorado,

Arizona, and Wyoming and now lives in Moon, VA with his wife of 32 years, Anne. They have two children, Jamie and Shannon. He plans to enjoy the quiet life and fish on the bay.

**Betsy (Bona) Singh '69BS '73MS '88PhD/H&S** is the newest credentialed Alternative Therapies in Health and Medicine. She is a clinical metaphysicist with over 20 years' experience as a teacher and researcher in many academic and medical departments. She is the director of research for the Complementary Medicine Program at the University of Maryland School of Medicine.

**Patricia (Richardson) Tompkins '67BS/N** is working part-time at the University of California, San Diego Home Care and Western University in Pomona, California. She is visiting the western national, state, and county parks by truck camper in her spare time. She lives with her husband Will in Vista, CA.

**\*Walter Wildman Jr. '60BS/B** is vice president of finance for the Virginia League for Planned Parenthood in Richmond. He lives in Glen Allen, VA.

## 1970s

**\*Nancy Alspaugh '77BA/H&S** is co-executive producer of Richard Simmons' new nationally syndicated program. She has produced such shows as *Vicki!* and *Leeza*. She won the 1996 Genesis Award, was named one of the 1996 "Women to Watch in Hollywood" named by the Hollywood Reporter and Boston's 100 Most Interesting Women.

**Sharon Arthur '79BS/E '83BFA** has been a professional artist for 15 years. She paints landscapes subjectively. Her paintings have appeared throughout the country. The Greenleaf Gallery in Duck on North Carolina's Outer Banks carries several of her original works. Her works have also been selected for juried shows at Chrysler Museum in Norfolk and the Peninsula Fine Arts Center.

**Stuart Ashby '71BS/B** is the manager of the Intake and Referral Unit at the state Office of Consumer Affairs in Richmond. He has held various positions throughout



## HAPPY MEAL

Commencement Breakfast 2000, millennial pancakes and scrambled eggs. It's a happy meal for grads, families and alumni servers alike! Nontraditional Studies alumni **Mary E. Adams '93BGS** and **Jesse Butler '92BGS** congratulate one of the newest NTS alumni, **Thelma Stockton. Southall Stone '71BS/H&S** and **Emily Hughes '66BS/E '72Med** were among two dozen alumni serving breakfast to graduates and their families.



the organization since graduation. He has a wife, Stephanie and two children, Ben and Elizabeth.

**Todd (Tignor) Barnes '74BME** is a music specialist for Northumberland County Elementary School in VA. She has taught music here for 12 years. She also works with The Judgement Day Refreshment Committee, a choir of about 80 teenagers who sing contemporary Christian music.

**Nancy (Greene) Boyer '70BFA** has been appointed Principal, Director of Interiors of Jova Daniels Busby. She had been vice president of the firm which she joined in 1979. She lives with her husband Rod and two daughters, Audrey and Whitney, in Buckhead, GA.

**Barbara (Smith) Brown '76MED** is principal of Petersburg High School. She was principal of Goochland Middle School as well as Goochland Elementary School. Barbara was a mathematics teacher and a teacher of the gifted. She lives in Richmond.

**Teresa (Pendleton) Browne '76BS/E** is assistant director for nontraditional admission for Bryant College in Providence, RI. She worked for Cranston Adult

Education for eight years. She lives in North Kingstown, RI.

**Lillian (Andrews) Callins '70BS/SW** received her MED with an emphasis in high school education from the University of Alabama in Birmingham, AL. She is a GED/Literacy Instructor for the City of Birmingham Board of Education. She has a husband, Aldrich and four children, Bethany, Chelsea, Richie, and Timothy.

**\*Barbara (Gillyard) Chapman '77BS '79MED** is Virginia's 1998 Assistant Principal of the Year from the Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals (VASSP) and the McDonald's Corp. She is principal of Elkhart Middle School and has been with Richmond Public Schools for 22 years.

**\*James Chau '76BS/H&S** is certified by the American Board of Endodontics. He practices endodontics at the Naval Dental Center in Norfolk, VA. He and his wife, **\*Gloria (Yiu) '79BS/H&S** have two children, Andrew and Anthony.

**Barbara (Eddins) Childress '72BS '75MED** earned the 1999 Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award, which recognizes exceptional educational talent, promise and achievement in developing innovative educational curricula, programs and teaching methods. She is principal at Echo Lake Elementary School in Glen Allen, VA.

**Sheila Crowley '76BSW '78MSW '98PhD/SW** is president of the National Low Income Housing Coalition. She teaches at VCU and is on the board of directors of the National Coalition for the Homeless. Sheila was the executive director of the Daily Planet, a multipurpose agency in Richmond that helps the poor and homeless.

**Jacqueline Daily '77BS/E** is a long-term substitute special education teacher for Norfolk Public Schools in VA. Jacqueline earned special certification from Old Dominion University as a Special Education Teacher. She lives in Jarvisburg, NC.

**\*Alice Davis '74BS/E** is gallery manager of Oz, a Gallery of Fine Art and Craft. She is a painter and an Episcopal priest. Her work has been exhibited all over VA as well as many other galleries such as the Art Club of Washington, DC and the National Collection of Fine Art at the Smithsonian Institute. She and her husband \*Joe Davis live in Luray, VA.

**Ronald Denny '77BFA** is advertising and support manager for BB&T Corporation. He was owner of Richmond-based Denny Marketing Co. He and his wife, Laura have two children.

**Jeannette Drake '76MSW '91MFA/H&S** won a scholarship

award in the first annual National Arts Program at Richmond sponsored by the Leonard E. B. Andrews Foundation in July, 1999 and exhibited two drawings in Emerging Talent. She had three poems, *Everybody Wants a Black Man*, *God and The Good News*, published in *The Third Eye: Photographs by Jerome Bass* (Volume I). Jeannette also does readings and workshops in the Richmond area.

**Phyllis Dyer-Weldon '77BFA '83C/B** is vice president of compliance services for the SEC in Raleigh, NC. She was chief information officer for Duke Clinical Research Institute. She is married to **John Weldon III '84BFA**.

**Milton Eichmann '71BS/H&S** is an MD at Community Medical Practices, a General Family Practice/Urology. Offices were opened in Ferriday, St. Joseph, and Vidalia, LA.

**Rex Ellis '74BFA** is chairman and curator in the division of cultural history for the Museum of American History. He was the director of the Center for Museum Studies at the Smithsonian Institution. Rex helped



# Reunion 2000



initiate and was manager for a program unit devoted to African-American history at Colonial Williamsburg in VA.

**Michael Erwin '74BS/B** is the executive vice president of Carter Myers Automotive's Colonial Auto Center, a nine-franchise new-car dealership in Albemarle County. He was vice president and service director.

**Christine Forzano '73BS/E** is an award-winning songbird carver. For three years, her carvings have won several awards including best in show at the Atlantic Wildlife Art and Nature Exposition in Virginia Beach in March, 1999. Christine would like to be able to "carve the best wren around" and be the first woman to win the world competition for songbird carving. She is a physical education teacher at Spotsylvania High School and a volleyball coach. She is also a singer and former nightclub entertainer in Richmond.

**Robin Frank '77BA/H&S** is vice president of governmental affairs for the Healthcare Association of New York State in Albany, NY. She lives in Clifton Park, NY.

**\*Barbara Gizzard-Barham '71BS/E** was April's featured artist at the Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury, a nonprofit Life-Care retirement community in Irvington, VA. She is a member of the Petersburg Area Art League, the Shockoe Bottom Art League, and 1708 Art Gallery. She is working on her BFA and lives in Colonial Heights, VA.

**Patricia Gooch '74BFA** is an artist and a lover of the outdoors.

**Cindi (Allen) Graesser '79BS/MC** owns *Immsbrook Magazine*. She has two children.

**David Green '79BFA** is a manager in auto sales for Lithia Corporation. He works in their Toyota store in Springfield, OR. He has two sons, Austin and Maxwell.

**Joseph Hagenlocker '79MS/H&S** is manager of security assessment and accreditation for the Virginia Department of Corrections in Richmond. He lives with his wife, Oneida in Chester, VA.

**\*Lee Hamlin '75H&S** is a sales manager for Alltel Corporation.

**Gail Harding '73BFA** is the founder and second alto of *Esprit de Chord*, formed in 1988, an eight-voice a cappella ensemble that sings madrigals, spirituals, and light rock, folk, and pop songs. She performs with Belles 'n' Beaus, a Patrick County song and dance troupe. She owns *The Enterprise* in Stuart, VA.

**Patricia Hassard '79MS/MC** is marketing director for the Virginia Society of the American Institute of Architects in Richmond. She has 20 years of professional marketing experience in the area with firms such as Mays & Valentine law firm and Johnston-Willis Hospital.

**Richard W. Hatcher III '73BA/H&S**, with William Garrett Piston, wrote *Wilson's Creek: the Second Battle of the Civil War and the Men Who Fought It*. Richard is historian at Fort Sumter National Monument.

**Peter Hobbie '77MBA** is Presbyterian College's 1999 Professor of the Year. He is

an associate professor of religion and chair of the department and has worked for the college since 1990.

**Cheryl (Fornash) Hoffman '71AS '73BS/B** has been the vice president of Fornash Diamonds and Fine Jewelry in Richmond since 1995. She was in sales and marketing for IBM Corporation for 19 years. She has a son, James.

**Diane (Ritchie) Howerton '71BS/E** is the branch manager and business analyst for the new Crater Small Business Development Center. She owned two small businesses and worked for several firms such as Solomon Smith Barney and Wheat First Butcher Singer.

**Paul Jaher '78BS/B** is senior vice president of mortgage lending for Triangle Bank in Rocky Mount, NC. He is also president of the Mortgage Bankers Association of the Carolinas.

**\*Nancy (Prince) Jackson '76BS '80MS/E** owns a real estate company with her husband, T. Michael Jackson, specializing in waterfront properties, farms and property in the northern neck and middle peninsula area. They also work with NASCAR sponsorship marketing. Nancy has been a Middlesex County School Board member for 12 years, chairman for seven. She lives in Deltaville, VA.

**Esther Johnson '76BS/E '78MED** has been chief of research and policy for the Unemployment Insurance Service, Employment and Training Administration, US Department of Labor since November, 1997. She published *Free Blacks in the Northern Neck, 1600s-1800s* from 15 years of researching her genealogy and other free black families in the Northern Neck, Essex and King George.

**Edriene Johnson-Butcher '73BS/H&S** is fund development consultant for the Pioneer Girl Scouts Council in Gastonia, NC. She has 17 years of experience in Girl Scouting. Edriene worked at the national office of Girl Scouts of the USA in New York. She has two children, Kemi and Assi and a husband, Claude.

**Deborah (Jones) Kemper '73MM** travels in the US and Canada teaching and performing in recitals, workshops, and institutes. She is a Young Artist winner in the National Federation of Music Clubs and has performed a solo recital with the organ at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC.

**Philip Kendall '74MS '77PhD/H&S** has been named a Laura Carnell Professor of Psychology at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA. He is an internationally recognized expert on clinical child psychology and clinical psychological research, heading Temple's Division of Clinical Psychology and the Child and Adolescent Anxiety Disorders Clinic. Philip is the president-elect of the American Psychological Association's division of clinical child psychology as well. His treatment program for children with anxiety problems, the "Coping Cat," has been translated into six languages and is used in more than 12 countries. He lives in Ardmore, PA.

**Larry Kent '77BM** is music director for the Florida Pro Musica, a new non-

profit organization with a 14-voice chorus and 19-member orchestra that performs Baroque and classical music. He was assistant conductor of the Tampa Bay Chamber Orchestra.

**\*Donna Knicely '77BS/E** and her husband, **\*John "Bill" Jordan III '49BS/H&S** are dedicated volunteers with the Hospital Hospitality House (HHH) at the MCV Campus. HHH received the Governor's Community Service and Volunteerism Award for 1999.

**Jonathan Lewis '79MA/H&S** is Poquoson City Schools' new superintendent. He was assistant superintendent in Hanover County schools in Ashland. He has served in education for 20 years. His wife, **Claudette (Beaudoin) '79BS/E** teaches preschool, and they have two children, Nathan and Adrienne.

**\*Harvey Lindsay '71BS/MC** is regional operations director for Wilmore-Ivanhoe Property Management and mall manager for Fort Henry Mall in Kingsport, TN. He has been in the shopping center industry with TrizecHahn for 20 years at six malls in five states. He lives with his wife, Sharon and four children, Paul, Christina, Alexis and Matt.

**Carolyn (Young) Long '74BFA** was 1998-1999 teacher of the year at Goochland Elementary School in VA. She has taught there and at Goochland High School for 11 years. Carolyn is a professional artist having exhibited at the Chrysler Museum of Art in Norfolk, the Peninsula Fine Arts Center in Newport News, the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and many other galleries along the eastern seaboard. She is pursuing a MIS in painting at VCU. She has been married for 26 years to her husband, John and they have a daughter, Sara.

**Valerie Marsh '78BSW '89MSW** has been the executive director of NAMI-Virginia, a state affiliate of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill since 1994. She founded and was the first executive director of the first homeless shelter in Richmond in 1981. Valerie is married and has two children, Sean Michael and Katie.

**Betsy (Wurl) McKean '70MFA** is a faculty member of the Center for the Arts in Florida. Her work has been displayed in numerous prestigious exhibitions such as the Smithsonian and the Headley Whitney Art Museum in Lexington, KY.

**James McNeal '77MS/H&S** is a certified scuba instructor of 23 years teaching at VCU since 1984 and at the Lake Rawlings Recreational Scuba Park. He is the owner and manager of the Dive Shop in Richmond and a member of the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI). He was a biologist for the state working with the Water Control Board. He has led dive travel groups to places like the Bahamas, Grand Cayman Island, Bonaire, Honduras, Belize, Fiji, and Hawaii.

**Charles Miller '73BS/B** is the executive director of Piedmont Healthcare Systems in Rock Hill, SC. He was chief operating officer. Charles has a wife, Catherine and two sons, Hunter and Stephen.

**Jeanne Minnix '68BFA** is a resident director for Griffin & Associates, an advertising, marketing and public relations firm in Albuquerque, NM. Her landscapes, visual journals and garden journals appear in New Mexico galleries as well. She is an enjoying hiking, climbing and studying Native American and Hispanic culture. She lives with her son, Miles.

**Charlotte (Loughridge) Morgan '78MED '91MFA/H&S** is a teacher at Dabney S. Lancaster Community College in VA. She wrote *One August Day*, which was featured in 1999's *Much Ado About Books*, an annual literary event and fundraiser in Jacksonville, FL. This novel was nominated for the Library of Virginia's Fiction Award. Her short story, *What I Eat* was selected for the Pushcart Prize collection. Charlotte won the Sherwood Anderson Short Story Competition and the Virginia Highland Literary Festival Novel Category. She is married to John Morgan '91MFA.

**Patricia O'Bannon '71BS/E** a Henrico County, VA Supervisor is one of ten winners of the *Good Housekeeping Awards for Women in Government*. Judges chose Pat because of her extraordinary work to combat domestic violence. *Good Housekeeping* will profile her in their July issue. She plans to donate her \$2,500 prize to support domestic violence programs in Henrico.

**\*Edward Obermeyer '78BFA '98MIS** won first place at the TVAEA juried exhibition at Crestar Bank in Norfolk, VA. He won the IGIFA Striped Bass Contest for his illustration published in the 1999 2000 Fisherman's Guide. Edward is also published in *A Tapestry of Knowledge*. He is the fine arts coordinator for Larkspur Middle School in Virginia Beach where he lives with his wife, Kristine.

**Tom Parker '70MSW** is a returning board member for the Laughlin Health Care Foundation in Greeneville, TN. He has worked in social services in the area since 1970. He was senior vice president for clinical services at Frontier Health and is now retired. He has a wife, Betty and two children, Eric and Erica.

**\*Deborah Parrish '76BS/B** is job center coordinator for Goodwill Industries in Richmond. She was in pharmaceutical sales and management in Washington, DC. She lives in Goochland, VA.

**John Parrish '77MS '80PhD H&S** is executive director of the Erickson Foundation, a nonprofit organization to effect positive change in the areas of genetic research, education and urban renewal. He lives in Ellicott City, MD with his wife, Sherry and their daughter, Shannon.

**\*Gerry Powell '77BS/B** is chief financial officer for W.R. Bond's Company in Charlotte, NC. He lives with his wife, Suzanne in Monroe, NC. He has twins, T.J. and Nathan.

**\*Linda (Grabill) Reinke '75MSW** is a retired social work administrator for The Salvation Army Family Services in Chicago, IL. She lives in Williamsburg, VA.

**\*Gary Richey '75BS H&S** is associate professor in education at Plymouth State

College in NH and was granted tenure. He is also the coordinator of the special education option in the Department of Education. Gary was the assistant professor of education at the college.

**Bobby Shearin '78MS/AH(RC)** is the warden for the Federal Correctional Institution in Loretto, PA. He has worked in ten federal institutions since 1973. He and his wife, Carol have four children.

**James Smith II '77MSW** is an academic lecturer in the Department of Social Work at the University of Wyoming in Laramie. He is a Lieutenant Colonel in the US Army Reserve. James was a social work officer in the 1835th Medical Detachment (Combat Stress Component) in Denver, Colorado. He is a member of the National Association of Social Workers, National Council on Family Relations, and a life member of the Council of African American Men.

**Robert Sparkman II '77BS/B** is a financial analyst with Operational Research Consultants Inc. in Alexandria, VA. He lives in Montclair, VA.

**Douglas Stone '73BFA** is chairman of the planning and zoning commission in Funkstown, MD. He is a prize-winning photographer, artist, electrician, landscaper and union official. He works for Panghorn Corp. as an electrician and is president of United Auto Workers Local 842. His paintings are post abstract impressionist. He and his wife, Stephanie have two children, Ben and David.

**Glenn Sullivan '75BS/H&S** is director of Amherst County Social Services in VA. He was director of child care and employment services for Lynchburg, VA's social and human services department. He is married to **Linda Sullivan '75BS/E**.

**\*Jean Thomas '78MEd** retired from the Richmond Public Schools after 31 years of teaching. She and her husband, Frank travel and volunteer, especially with the Meals on Wheels Program in Richmond.

**\*Ronald Tillett '79BS/H&S** is the state finance secretary of VA since 1996. He was deputy state treasurer in 1987 and state treasurer in 1993.

**Bruce Twyman '74BS/MC** is the advertising director for the Virginia Tourism Corporation. Bruce has two children, Nia and Jonathan.

**Ted Varnier '70BS/B** plays tenor saxophone for "Rotations," a local band that plays beach, soul, rock 'n' roll, and R&B music in Petersburg. He retired from Philip Morris after 25 years. He and his wife, Patsy have four children and three grandchildren. His daughter, **Michelle Varnier '99BA** received her degree this year.

**Brenda (Layne) Velarde '74BME** is Educator of the Year for Gretna Elementary School in VA. She has been the music teacher there for nine years.

**Paula Warren '77MSW** teaches French I through IV and ancient and medieval history at Stuart Hall School in Staunton, VA. She taught in public and private schools in Richmond and Northern VA.

**Clayton Watkins II '76BS/H&S** married Dr. Elise Marguerite Hughes on May 22, 1999. The couple lives in Richmond.

**Claudia (Guyton) Wells '76BS/E** is a library media specialist for Cold Harbor Elementary School in Hanover County, VA. She married Gordon Wells on July 17, 1999. They live in Richmond. She has a daughter, Brooke.

**Vernon Wildy '77MEd** is associate director for secondary instructional services with the Virginia Department of Education, a counselor and teacher in the Richmond City public schools, a teacher of adult education and an adjunct professor at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College. He is affiliated with many honorable associations as well. He has a wife, Margaret and a son, Vernon Wildy Jr.

**Robert Worthy '72BFA '79MEd '99MIS** is an administrative officer for the Education for Independence Program and an adjunct art professor at Rappahannock Community College. He is married to **Jacqueline Worthy '69BS/H&S '76MEd**.

**Delmar Wright '77BS '87MS/H&S '99PhD/CPP** has been deputy chief inspector of Powhatan County, VA since 1997. He is on the US Postal Inspection Service Executive Committee, the Inspection Capital Investment Committee and the USPS Diversity Oversight Committee. Delmar is also a motivational speaker for career professionals and at-risk youths. He was recently asked to chair a new federal law enforcement group addressing recruitment, retention and career progression challenges in federal law enforcement.

**\*Gary Zwicker '78MBA** is a billing manager for the Virginia Department of Information Technology in Richmond. He has two daughters, Elizabeth and Marianne.

## 1980s

**\*William "Eddy" Houchins '80BFA** writes in with a correction. He works for Disney Television Animation. He did not direct the video, "Pirates of the Caribbean," (our mistake). William has directed 22 episodes of the "Disney's Hercules" series.

**James Adkins III '86BS/H&S** is the resource officer at Henrico High School. He has been there for five years and with the Henrico Division of Police for twelve years.

**Valerie Albano '89BS/AH** received the "Phoenix Award" from Healthcare Underwriters Mutual Insurance Co. She is the director of Health Information Management at Northern Dutchess Hospital in NY. Valerie is certified by the American Health Information Management Association as an accredited records and registered records administrator.

**Herbert Armstrong '83MBA** is the assistant dean of the School of Aviation and Transportation at Dowling College in Oakdale, NY since 1993. He is the assistant dean of the School of Business since 1998. Herbert directs the MBA programs, including some in Moscow and China.

**Barry Badgett '85BFA** was granted tenure and a promotion to Associate Professor of Sculpture at Wichita State University in Wichita, KS. His wife, **Angelique (Tainter) Badgett '84BFA** graduated in May, 1999 with a degree in elementary education. She teaches second grade at Minneha Core Knowledge Magnet in Wichita, KS. They have two children, Caitlin and Nolan.

**Jane Ballard '89BA/H&S** is a Librarian/Media Specialist and faculty member at St. Paul's College, James Russell Solomon Library. She lives in Chesterfield County.

**Sam Bass '84BFA** is an artist specializing in drawing and painting stock cars and other racing images. He owns Sam Bass Illustration and Design. He helped design the new Dale Earnhardt Gibson Les Paul guitar. He worked with several country music artists on design work as well.

**Leigh Baxter '80BME '84MM** is a composer. He is an adjunct faculty member for John Tyler Community College and J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College. He taught for Huguenot Academy and Rudlin Torah Academy. He tunes pianos and is secretary for the Tidewater chapter of the National Association of Composers, USA. He is published with Seesaw Music, Inc. of New York.

**Thomas Bechtel '85BS/H&S** is a RN at IHS at the Woodlands in Hershey, PA. He and his wife, Tina live in Dauphin with their two daughters.

**Lenzie "Jack" Boswell III '80BS/B** is director of sales for ECR Pharmaceuticals in Richmond. He has a son, Adam.

**Richard Brace '84BS/H&S** is city administrator for Brunswick, MD. He worked for the county planning department for fourteen years. He is a member of the American Planning Association's Maryland Chapter. Richard lives with his wife, Starrette, in the New Market area.

**Richard Bradley '86BA/H&S** is a staff analyst at Compuware Corporation in Arizona.

**David Bromley '85BFA '86MFA** is an adjunct faculty member at VCU. His artwork appears in New Art International. His works have appeared at the 1708 Gallery, Clark-Pollack Gallery, Charles H. Taylor Art Center, and Artspace in VA as well as the Agora Gallery and Banco Popular in NY. Within his art, David says he is "able to consider traditional formal concerns through elements of realism and abstraction."

**J. Lynwood Butner '81MPA** is assistant commissioner for motor carrier services for the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles in Richmond. He has 30 years of transportation experience. He was state traffic engineer for VDOT.

**Elizabeth (Lanham) Calaman '85BS/B** married Victor Calaman on June 23, 1998. She is a senior investment officer with Crestar Investment Group. They live in Richmond.

**Scott Cannady '88BA/H&S '96MPA** is the managed care supervisor for the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services. He has two children. Scott lives with his wife, **Maria (Binns) Cannady**

**'90BFA '97BS/AH** in Moseley, VA. She works part-time at the Children's Hospital in Richmond.

**Julie (Jones) Carwile '83BS/E '94MS/B** is the assistant professor of business for Southside Virginia Community College in Alberta, VA. She has three children.

**Carolyn (Lowenthal) Cios '86H&S '88MPA** is the finance director for Powhatan County, VA. She was in marketing and advertising for Peak Performance in Midlothian. Carolyn has held several financial positions. She lives with her husband, **Christopher Cios '88DDS** and her stepdaughter in Midlothian.

**Sara (Miller) Clark '80BFA '96MFA** was awarded the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Professional Fellowship in painting. She is an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Painting and Printmaking at VCU. Sara is married to **Scott Clark '90C/B**.

**Shawn Clerkin '89MFA** received tenure at Gannon University of Erie, PA. He is the director of the theater program and assistant professor of theater.

**\*Monique (Mercer) Coleman '87BA/H&S** married **\*Byron Coleman** on May 1, 1999. She works at R.O.W. Sciences Inc. in Rockville, MD. They live in Baltimore County, MD.

**Mark Connelly '83BS/B** is the branch manager of Countrywide Home Loans in Richmond (Midlothian office). He lives in Chesterfield.

**Dennis Danvers '89MFA/H&S** had his fourth novel, *End of Days* released in July 1999. His third novel, *Circuit of Heaven* was nominated for the Library of Virginia's Fiction Award.

**\*Christopher Davis '87BS/B** married **\*Carolyn Peel '92MD '95HS** on May 29, 1999. He works for Miami Systems in Richmond and she is a member of the MCV faculty. They live in Richmond.

**\*Collins Denny IV '87BS/B** formed TekCon, a technical consulting organization providing network integration, analysis, design and support services in February, 1998. He focused on Year 2000 professional services. He has over 14 years of information systems and audit experience. He worked for Deloitte and Touche throughout the US.

**Patricia Donnelly '87MSW** is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker for Downeast Whole Health Associates in Machias, ME. She treats "the mind-body connection." Patricia worked as an individual and group psychotherapist for the past ten years. She is approved by the ME State Licensing Board of Substance Abuse Counselors to clinically supervise substance abuse counselors. She also presents workshops on domestic violence, communications, stress and anger management, and assertiveness training.

**Peter Drummond '88BFA** is the vice president and general manager at Grapheme Inc. He recently moved from Montreal to Toronto to build-up the brand identity firm of Cossette Communications IPO in June, 1999. Peter was in the Falls Church, VA area doing projects recently. He lives with his wife, Julie and two children, Sise and Tate.

# REMAINS OF THE DAY

Allen Jones '82BFA '92MFA/A



A black and white photograph of some of the nearly 10,000 white crosses in the American Cemetery at Coleville sur Mer above the bluffs at Omaha Beach in Normandy, France sets the tone for an exhibition by Virginia Commonwealth University photographer Allen Jones.

"Return to Normandy" is part of the opening exhibitions at the new National D-Day Museum in New Orleans, June 6, 2000–May 1, 2001. Jones, the manager of photography at VCU's Media Production Services has made several trips to France to photograph the remains of the German defensive fortifications along the beaches as they appear today, 56 years after the invasion of Normandy, on D-Day, June 6, 1944. The black and white photographs document what is left of the German bunkers that still dominate what was once known as Hitler's "Atlantic Wall" on the Normandy coastline. The exhibit

includes 30 of the more than 1000 images Jones made of the sites over a three-year period.

In his personal photographic projects, Jones focuses primarily on the landscape. "Landscape provides an insight into history and mirrors contemporary concerns. The way we treat or mistreat the land is an indicator of our cultural values," Jones said. "One of the things I am fascinated by is the evidence of human activity in a landscape that lacks the actual presence of people."

Jones uses several different camera formats in his work. Primarily he relies on a 4X5 view camera to produce meticulously composed and highly detailed studies of his subjects and their environs.

In May of 1997 Jones traveled to the beaches of Normandy. There, he made stark black and white photographs of the pockmarked German

bunkers that stand as "quiet monuments" to the events of a half century earlier. The images resulted in a year-long exhibition at the George C. Marshall Museum in Lexington, Va.

"I liked the exhibit and decided to include it in the museum's opening because the photos provide WWII veterans with the opportunity to see how the beach looks now," said Paula Ussery, curator of the National D-Day Museum. "Since they are in black and white, Jones' photos provide a visual connection to the past. My hope is that the veterans will open up and talk to their families about the events that took place that day."

The D-Day photographs evoke a sense of peace and serenity despite the fact that their subject is war. "Being at Normandy, you get an incredible sense of the sacrifice the soldiers made. It's a sacred place," said Jones. "It was a bloody and brutal battle. A lot of veterans go back to the beach to come to terms with how horrible it was. It brings them closure."

Revisiting the battle site may have also provided a sense of closure for Jones, whose father served in the Air Force during WWII. Since childhood, Jones had quizzed his father with questions about the war. His curiosity nudged at him and in adulthood, he researched the war and the battle and became more aware of his parents' sacrifices.

"I did this project as a remembrance to them, as a tribute to my father who passed away four years earlier," Jones said. "On a larger scale, it becomes a tribute to a generation."

Jones' latest project also centers on WWII. He visited a place near Rouen, France, where allied soldiers, on the march to Berlin in the later stages of the war, camped in an area which became known as the "cigarette



POST GRAD

camp." On the trees, soldiers carved their names, places of birth and year of their arrival in France. Over time the trees grew, stretching the carvings and distorting the writing.

Jones is attracted to the traditional French landscape with the added twist of what is now historical graffiti. "It's a remarkable, yet eerie place," said Jones. "I was intrigued enough to turn it into an exhibition."

Jones hasn't focused solely on war history. Another of his recent projects includes a photographic documentation of the clear cutting of rainforest areas on the Osa Peninsula in Costa Rica. That exhibit is currently part of a traveling exhibition with the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

Websites: <http://www.gcmarshallfdn.org/museum.html>,  
<http://www.ddaymuseum.org>

The National D-Day Museum accepts donations of World War II memorabilia. Contact National D-Day Museum: 143 Magazine Street, New Orleans, LA 70130. Email: [info@ddaymuseum.org](mailto:info@ddaymuseum.org).





## NOW WE'RE COOKIN'

Once again, Alumni Association members treated 500 accepted students and their families for lunch during the Admissions Office's annual Block Party. Alumni grilled almost 2,000 hot dogs, served chicken fingers, poured soft drinks and helped more than 1,200 visitors feel welcome at VCU. During their visit, students and their families tour classrooms and labs, attend academic sessions, and receive information on areas including housing, financial aid, and safety.



**Julia Duncan '83BA/H&S** is an editor and writer for the publications office at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. She is in the MFA creative writing program there as well since 1998. Her short story *Ghost in a Glass House* was published by Gargoyle in 1998. Julia lives with her husband, Richard Waldrop and their two children, Kai and Hannah Grace in Alexandria, VA.

**Lloyd Dunnivant '87BA/H&S** is back in Richmond after 12 years as executive director of Children At Risk Today. He and his wife, Siobhan have four children, Rylan, Cameron, Helen-Gray and Dwyer.

**Doug Edwards '88BS/B** works for Hudson-Blunt Insurance of Middlesex and Mathews County in Topping, VA. He has worked in insurance for ten years. Doug worked at Virginia Farm Bureau in Kilmarnock. He has his LUTCF and is working towards a CLU. His wife, **Kimberly (Kidd) Edwards '90BS/AH** works for Lancaster County Public Schools. They live with their two children in Lively, VA.

**\*Pamela (Frailey) Faggert '86MBA** is the vice president and chief environmental officer for Dominion Generation and Virginia Power. She was manager of environmental policy and compliance. Pamela is married with two children, four stepchildren, and six stepgrandchildren.

**Cameron Forrester '82BGS/NTS** was elected to National Bankshares, Inc.'s (NBI) Board of Directors. He was president, CEO, and a member of the Board of Directors for the Bank of Tazewell County. Cameron began his banking career in 1984. He teaches classes for the American Institute of Banking.

**Peter Fraser '88BFA** works for Rau & Associates in Richmond. He worked at the Glave Firm.

**Hugo "Larry" Giancaterino '84MS/B** is the president and CEO of Chasen's Business Interiors Inc. He started his business with Irvin Chasen in 1979 and bought it in 1987. Chasen's now has a new subsidiary, Chasen's e-Workspaces, which combines the business with new technology to allow clients to create a virtual office before purchasing the furniture. He and his wife, Cecile have a son.

**Randolph Glasscock '87BA/H&S** received the "Outstanding Contribution to Family and Children Services" for Wasatch and Utah Counties. He is the Family Support Service coordinator for Wasatch Mental Health in Provo, Utah.

**Kathy (Floria) Gmeiner '86BFA** is a self-employed marketing consultant. She is attending the Ecumenical Institute of Theology affiliated with St. Mary's College in Baltimore, MD for an MA in Theology. Kathy and her husband, Ambrose went to Bolivia in June, 1998 to bring home their adopted girl, who is now 2. They have two children, Brennan and Ellie and live in New Market, MD.

**John Graham '88MA/B** is associate professor of finance at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business. He won one of eight Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowships given nationally in the economics field for 2000. John is researching the tax benefits to debt and whether it is optimal for companies to operate as conglomerates. After his first year at Fuqua, he received the 1998 Chrysler Award for Innovation and Excellence in Teaching. He also received the Bank of America Outstanding Faculty Award by Fuqua's Board of Visitors last fall. John is currently the director of the quarterly Duke/Financial Executives Institute Corporate Outlook Survey and the associate editor for the Journal of Finance, the top journal in his field. He is also on several committees at Fuqua and one of the school's United Way ambassadors.

**Robert Gray '81C/B** is chairman of the American Bar Association House of Delegates. He is vice president of LeClair Ryan of Richmond. Robert was president of the Virginia State Bar Young Lawyers Conference and chairman of the Virginia State Bar Commission on Women and Minorities.

**Jeffrey Green '89BS '95BS/H&S** is a special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the Philadelphia office. He was accepted into the PhD program in criminal justice at Temple University. Jeffrey was a Chesterfield County police officer while at VCU.

**\*Dennis Hall '88BS '89BS/B** is the general manager for the Richmond Coliseum. He was assistant general manager. Dennis is a Certified Public

Accountant. He was finance director for the Richmond Association of Realtors.

**Tammie Hall '82BA/H&S** is senior legal assistant for the Department of Health Professions in Richmond. She lives in Chesterfield, VA.

**Helen (Reed) Hayes '88BFA** is the president of HL Reed Design Inc. She designed several area restaurants including Main Street Beer Co., Ruth's Chris Steak House, Bottega, Pasta Luna, Mulligan's, and Shackleford's. She is also involved in an ongoing renovation of the Annabel Lee. Helen's work appears in Charlottesville and Fredericksburg, VA as well. She is currently working on a proposal for a barbecue restaurant.

**Michael Hensdill '85MFA** received a second place award in sports photography in the annual NC Press Association News, Editorial, and Photojournalism Contest. He is a photographer for *The Gazette* in Gastonia, NC. Michael is married with two children.

**Michael Hervey '83BS/B** was selected as one of 25 1999 Fannie Mae Foundation Fellows for the Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. He is the executive director of Farish Street Historic District Neighborhood Foundation (FSHDNF) in Jackson, MS.

**Barbara Hill '86MFA** is program director for the Hand Workshop Art Center in Richmond. She is an artist whose work has been displayed around Virginia. Barbara makes clay vessels.

**Mary Holland '85MFA** has been manager of the Adult Studio Class Program for the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts since 1989. She has had one-person exhibitions at Peninsula Fine Arts Center in Newport News, VA, and two-person exhibitions at the Hand Workshop in Richmond and Twentieth Century Gallery in Williamsburg, VA. Mary's work appears in the collections of Crestar, MCV, Signet Bank, Trigon Blue Cross and Blue Shield and UVA. She recently served as a juror for

the Artists of the Chesapeake Juried Art Exhibition in Kilmarnock, VA.

**John Hoppenthaler '88MFA/H&S** is Toni Morrison's assistant and teaches part-time at St. Thomas Aquinas College. He is co-editor of *Kestrel*. John's poetry has recently appeared in *Ploughshares*, *Connecticut Review*, *Chelsea*, *Tar River Poetry*, *The Bloomsbury Review*, *Luna* and *Defined Providence*. He was nominated twice for the Pushcart Prize this year. He also does several essay and book reviews for *Arts & Letters* and *Chelsea*. John's poem *Siple Dome* will be reprinted in the anthology *Clockpunchers: Poetry of the American Workplace*.

**Gregory Hopper '86BS/H&S** married Evelyn (Maxson) on September 26, 1998. They both work for Crestar Bank and live in Chesterfield.

**Diana (Snell) Hubbard '87BS/MC** married Troy Hubbard '95BS/MC on May 22, 1999. Diana has a marketing consulting firm, Impact Media Inc. in Richmond. Troy has an advertising firm, Hubbard Productions in Richmond.

**Deborah Hunley-Stukes '82BS/E** earned the 1999 Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award, which recognizes exceptional educational talent, promise and achievement in developing innovative educational curricula, programs and teaching methods. She is principal at Hugo A. Owens Middle School in Chesapeake, VA.

**Paul Iwashchenko '86BS/B** married Cynthia (Dean) on January 22, 1999. He is the owner of Realty Upkeep. They live in Richmond.

**Marian Jacobs '81BFA** is a senior designer in the interiors department and an associate for CUH2A.

**James Johnson '80MS/H&S** is a full-time assistant professor of criminology/criminal justice at Virginia Union University in Richmond. He was an adjunct professor since 1994 when he retired as an IRS special agent. James recently retired as command sergeant major of the 80th institutional training division in Richmond.

**\*Kevin Johnson '83BS/B** works at Seagram and Co. in New York City managing their worldwide information technology contracts to support Seagram (beverage company), Polygram Records (music industry), and Universal Studios (film and entertainment industry). He manages staff in Los Angeles, London, and New York City.

**Vanessa Johnson '89BS '94MS/AH(RC)** is a vocational rehabilitation counselor at the Department of Rehabilitative Services in Richmond. She lives with her husband, Shelton.

**Adine (Pearlman) Jones '89BS/H&S** is a veterinarian at the Hartfield Animal Hospital and Kilmarnock Animal Hospital of VA. She worked at the Warwick Animal Hospital and the Virginia Zoological Park. She has a special interest in exotic animals such as snakes and lizards. She married Joey Jones in October, 1999.



**\*Stephen Kadar Jr. '89** is a senior space controller in the Store Space Planning Department of Circuit City Stores in Richmond.

**Kim (Brace) Kane '83BFA** is director of marketing and public relations for Camco Financial Corporation. She was marketing coordinator for a commercial bank spanning several counties in Ohio.

**Stephen Keene '82BFA** is an artist of understandable and affordable paintings. He prides himself on "making a good quality object that's affordable to everyone." Stephen's work was shown in Houston in 1998.

**Greg Kelly '85BS/H&S** is vice president and director of project development, marketing, and sales for Greenwood Partnership, Ltd. He was manager of global business development for the Virginia Economic Development Partnership in Richmond. Greg has worked in industrial sales and marketing for 12 years.

**\*Dwayne King '84BS/H&S** is an attorney in Seattle, WA. He received his LL.M. degree in Tax Law in 1996.

**\*Erik Laursen '86MEd '96PhD/E** is president of the National Association of Strength Based Services International. He lives with his wife, **\*Jannie Laursen '98MEd** and two children in Midlothian.

**Elizabeth Lowe '83MS/H&S** is the chairman of the Washington County School Board. She is the director of extended learning for Clinch Valley College and the University of Virginia. She and her husband, Randy have two children.

**Rachel Maddux '83BS/B '99MEd** is an administrative staffer at VCU.

**\*Cheryl (Corona) Magill '81MEd '99PhD/E** won the 1999 Outstanding Dissertation Award from the Education Law Association.

**\*Julia (Schieken) Malakoff '89BA/H&S '89BS/MC** is president of Envoy Creative Consultants in Alexandria, VA. She just launched a website showcasing the commercial photographers her firm represents. Julia has a new son, Benjamin.

**Nicholas Mangieri '89MIS** wrote *Broken Badge* and *Frozen Shield*, which are about FBI corruption, political intrigue and his life.

**Alice McDonald '87MSW** is director of programs and services for the Center for Family Services in West Palm Beach, FL. She was a faculty field instructor at Barry University's School of Social Work and a clinical director at Parent-Child Center Inc. of West Palm Beach.

**Stephen Melton '87BS/B '96MBA** is plant manager for Ukrop's kitchen services in Chesterfield County.

**Charles Mercer '88BS/E** is DC Public Schools' Teacher of the Year. He is a sixth-grade teacher from Burrville Elementary School. Charles has taught for the past ten years. He received the US Department of Education Fulbright-Hays Foreign Scholar Seminar Abroad Program to Brazil, National Science Teachers Association Alice Moses Scholarship Fund, DC Metropolitan Organization of Black

Scientists Elementary Teacher of the Year, and Keeper of the Dream Award.

**Laura (Poupre) Merrell '85BS/B** and her husband, David celebrated the birth of their son, Marc David on February 2, 1999.

**Melike (Dagli) Monahan '87BS/B** is an examiner/investigator for the State Corporation Commission. She married Frank Monahan in 1993. They live with their two daughters in Midlothian.

**T. David Myers '87BS/B** is the chief financial officer for the Richmond Public Schools.

**Jeffrey Newton '80BS/H&S** is one of the first 69 certified jail managers in the US from the American Jail Association. He is the jail administrator for the Cumberland County Jail, Portland, Maine, the largest direct supervision jail in Maine.

**\*Melissa (Hale) Nolan '84BS/H&S** married Charles Nolan on May 1, 1999. She works for the Office of the Public Defender in Baltimore.

**Kathleen O'Connor '82BFA** spent the last five years in Norway. She is now living in Virginia and doing graphic art on the Mac.

**\*Donald Olah '86MM** is a strings teacher for Spotsylvania County Public Schools. He has several new arrangements and compositions for school string orchestras being published in 1999 and 2000, including *All the Pretty Little Horses* for Northfield Publications, *Mendelssohn Italian Symphony* for MSB Publications, and *Mozart Overture to Don Giovanni* for Edel Music Publishing.

**Lisa Oliva '89BS/MC** earned the Accredited Business Communicator professional designation from the Richmond chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators. She is public affairs manager for the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond.

**\*Howard Owen '81MA/H&S** is publishing his fifth novel, *Harry and Ruth*, in September. Howard is deputy managing editor of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*.

**Sheryl Pannell '86C/B** is a CPA and the manager-in-charge of the Clifton Gunderson PLLC office in Richmond. She is a member of the firm. Sheryl has worked there since 1995. She worked for the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services and Coopers & Lybrand.

**Bruce Pettway '88BS/B** is a self-employed broker. He lives with his wife, Nicol in Birmingham, AL.

**\*Stephanie Peyton '86BSW '88MSW** is a social work case manager for Mary Washington Hospital in Fredericksburg, VA.

**Richard Powell '87BS/B** moved to Denver from Chicago. He works for the General Services Administration.

**\*Tracey Prince '89BS/H&S** is the human resources director for Southeastern University in Washington, DC. She lives with her son, Jordan in Fort Washington, MD.

**Valerie (Stephens) Robinson '84BS/B** started a law firm, Walker Robinson, PC with Ephraim Walker III '86MBA in August, 1998, in Richmond. She has a husband, Walter and a daughter, Jennifer.

**John Rochat '88MS/H&S** is the Conewago Township supervisor. He is chief of police of the Borough of Millersville, Lancaster County. He worked as an officer for over 22 years and as police chief for over 12 years. He and his wife, Laurie live in the Deodade village of PA with their six children.

**Susan Roschke '89MURP** is the first full-time planning director for the City of Norwood, Ohio.

**\*Michael Rozario '88BS/B** and his wife, Sylvia celebrated the birth of their first child, Ethan Dipiro on July 9, 1999. Ethan means "strong" and Dipiro means "bright" in Bengali culture. Michael is a senior programmer and analyst for the Virginia Department of Social Services in Richmond.

**\*Gus Siokis '88BS/B** is vice president of business development and investor relations for VacationLink.com. He lives in Marietta, GA.

**Dwayne Smith '85BS/MC** is a research analyst at Policy Studies Associates in Washington, DC.

**\*Ronald Smith '85MFA/H&S** has published new poetry in Georgia Review.

**Joseph Solari '88MBA** is an investment banker for EVEREN securities in Chicago specializing in healthcare.

**Mark Spangler '86BFA** is a licensed Virginia architect. He has designed several homes in the area including one called "Dover Hall" in Goochland County, VA that will be featured in several national magazines. It opened in April 2000 with a gala fundraiser for the Richmond Symphony. He married **A. Maresa (Firth) Spangler '86BS/MC** in September, 1988. She is senior manager in charge of insurance operations at Capital One. They have two children, Madelaine and Connor.

**Raymond Spicer '82MSW** is the director of the Housing and Human Services Division in the Community Services Department for Falls Church, VA. He was the Chief of the Crisis Assistance Bureau in Arlington County. Raymond is certified through the Academy of Certified

social workers. He lives in Falls Church with his wife and two children.

**A. Troy Thomas '86BS/MC** is president and owner of Inertia Entertainment, Atlanta, GA, where he lives. His firm operates production news in Atlanta and Cincinnati, OH. Recent credits include The Discovery Channel, America's Most Wanted, ABC News, and VH1's Where Are They Now?

**J. Wesley Thompson '88BS/B** is a real estate project manager for the Hialeah Company. He has over 12 years of real estate development experience. Wesley is a licensed real estate broker.

**Sonja (Trollope) Vass '87BFA** is the reigning Mrs. Georgia 1999-2000. She was the first runner-up, but ended up competing in the Mrs. America Pageant in Hawaii when the winner could not fulfill her duties. She is a volunteer at her local schools teaching art design. Sonja works with abused and neglected children and helps young people with terminal illnesses achieve their wishes. She has a husband, John and three children.

**Christine Cleckner Wax '89MSW** married Robert Wax on June 23, 1999. They have two children, Jake and Noah. Christine is now the stay at home parent after several executive positions in the Northern Virginia and Maryland areas. They live in Falls Church, VA.

**\*Tracey Welborn '89BM** is an operatic and oratorio tenor. He sings the title role in Rameau's "Plateau" with the Opera de Paris. He has sung at the Hollywood Bowl, the Teatro Comunale in Bologna, and with the BBC Symphony.

**Suzanne Wheatley '89BS/H&S '93MSW** is youth development director for Alternatives, Inc. in Hampton, VA.

**Douglas Williamson '86BFA** married Jane Melvin on February 6, 1999. He works for Retail Planning Design Group for Belk Stores. They live in Charlotte, NC.

**Randall Williams '89MFA/H&S** spent three years in Merida, Mexico. He is now back in Richmond and teaching at VCU.

**Beginning at Home.** Shortly after earning her masters in urban planning, **Carter Donnan McDowell '85MURP/H&S** read a newspaper story about the abuse and death of a one-year-old who lived with three other children in a severely overcrowded, cockroach-infested house.

Both galvanized by the story, Carter and Richmond activist Mary Tyler McClenahan founded the Richmond Better Housing Coalition, dedicated to providing high quality, attractive, and affordable housing for working low-income families, the elderly, and others in need throughout the metropolitan area.

"Carter has made a profound difference," says department chair Gary Johnson. A drive down Cary Street or through Church Hill shows her ample legacy. During the last ten years the Coalition has built or renovated several hundred homes, helped organize and staff neighborhood civic organizations, and lobbied for increased funding for neighborhood revitalization efforts.

"Graduates of the Urban and Regional Planning Program tend to be motivated, not by money or power, but by the desire to make a positive difference in the world," Johnson comments. In 1999, Carter received the College of Humanities and Sciences Distinguished Alumna Award in recognition of her many contributions to the greater Richmond community.



# COOPERATING FOR CHANGE

Robert Grey Jr. '73BS/B

Robert Grey, a vice president with the business law firm of LeClair Ryan in Richmond for the past five years, made history in 1998 when he was elected chair of the American Bar Association's House of Delegates, on the track to run for president-elect in two years. Grey is the highest-ranking African American ever within the world's largest professional organization.

As Chair of the House, Grey must remain neutral on the issues, which could be the subject of debate. As an officer of the Association, Grey is often asked to frame the issues. For example, multidisciplinary practices that provide various business and legal experts under one roof may be a good idea. But "when the accountants say, 'We'll choose the clients,' it raises ethical issues regarding the independence of lawyers, conflicts of interest, and client confidentiality," he says. Grey is clear on campaign financing—"ethically, lawyers and firms should not make campaign contributions in exchange for work." E-commerce and the globalization of the consumer mean that "to serve clients, we'll need an understanding of business regulations and traditions in different countries and parts of the world."

Grey also chaired the Virginia State Bar Commission on Women and Minorities in the Profession and the Legal Ethics Committee. Principles of law that are most important to him are "access, fairness, predictability. The system doesn't work unless everybody has access to it. The ABA is a strong advocate for fully funding the Legal Services Corporation so that people of modest means will have the same treatment under the law as others. As for fairness, when the death penalty is unequally enforced, it damages society's underlying respect for the rule of law."

Perhaps Grey is sitting in the ABA Chair because he strongly believes in building cooperation to build a better society. "We can't complain about things unless we get involved," he told the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*. And he means everyone. "Meeting the needs of the community today requires the breadth and depth of our human resources."

An early awareness of the value of working in community came at VCU, when his classes moved into the new School of Business building. "Running around to different classes all over Franklin Street was disjointed. I felt a real sense of isolation," he remembers. "In the new building, I was part of a community of people working toward the same goals. It was complete and whole. It really changed your mindset in terms of what you could learn and how you could learn."

As chair of the Greater Richmond Chamber of Commerce, 1996-97, and now chair of the Greater Richmond Partnership Inc., Grey has been coordinating effective coalitions of business and educational institutions to bring jobs and training to the area. He was instrumental in building a community coalition that won a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant for at the health and safety of children in Greater Richmond. The initiative is called Youth Matters. One of its first projects is a collaborative effort between the public schools, VCU, business community and Youth Matters to work for every child being able to read by third grade. "We can't afford to neglect any of our youth," Grey says. "Our children should have the highest level of educational opportunities in an environment that will make young people feel safe and maximize their potential," he emphasizes.

VCU's role in downtown development, and President Trani's leadership have been crucial to Richmond, Grey continues. "The business community should be a partner with VCU to achieve academic innovation and excellence." Because of VCU's "dynamic presence on Broad Street and with the new School of Engineering, economic development professionals can market Richmond very competitively," he explains.

"It's also created a more enthusiastic response from surrounding localities. It seems to be falling together now. The attractiveness of the VCU development is changing the landscape for the whole area."

This is only one of the reasons "I am absolutely proud to be a VCU alum. The reputation of VCU is one of the fastest growing in the country. The advice and counsel I received from the faculty and administration have been invaluable over the years."

And he's made good use of it. "Things will not change unless you're an agent for change," he says simply.

—Mary Ellen Mercer



Norman Winegar '83MSW is associate vice president for clinical services at Magellan Behavioral Health in Chattanooga, TN, where he lives.

Elaine Wolfe '81BFA is a marketing writer and editor for Peoplesoft, a software company in Pleasanton, CA. She works from home on her ranch in the Sierra foothills of CA. She lives with her husband, Denis. They have two sons, Gregory and Geoffrey.

## 1990s

Marla (Meyerhoeffer) Aste '98BS/H&S married George Aste IV on September 19, 1998. They live in Northern Virginia.

Lisa (Shouse) Atkinson '98BS/MC married Jonathan Atkinson in May 1999. She works for the Bank of Essex.

Lionel Bacon '90BGS '94MIS/NTS is the senior program director at the Southside Virginia Family YMCA in Petersburg, VA. He received the Luther Gulick Mind, Body, and Spirit Award, the Y's highest honor. He has worked for the Y for four years. He says, "The children are the reason I come to work every day."

Dana (Smith) Bagnall '90MFA/H&S had her first book of poems, *Women Clothed with the Sun* accepted by LSU Press. Her poem, *The Nature of Change* was in the September, 1999 issue of *Stand*. Dana and her husband live in an old Victorian house on the edge of a graveyard in Exeter, England.

Charles Bartlett '93BFA teaches jewelry and drawing at Towson State University. He received Best of Show at Three Rivers Arts Festival in Pittsburgh, PA. He earned an MFA in metalsmithing from Syracuse University.

Patricia Beachley '96MFA is an adjunct faculty member for the VCU School of the Arts, teaching in Art Foundation and Sculpture where she's the foundry specialist. She has shown her artwork in group and solo exhibitions since 1992. She is working on a PhD in art history.

Chris Becker '91BS/H&S is a network administrator at Deutsche Bank in Baltimore, MD. He lives with his wife, Whitney in Columbia, MD.

\*Eric Bell '95MHA and his wife, Kimberly, celebrated the birth of their first child, Garrett Scott Bell on June 21, 1999 in Savannah, GA. He is the administrator of specialty care at Memorial Health.

W.T. Benson '97MIS is town attorney for Front Royal, VA. He lives in Sperryville, VA.

Jakob Berger '98MFA is a teacher at the Conservatory of Theatre Arts at Webster University. He has acted with Shakespeare & Company and Lamb's Player's Theatre and has taught at StageWest and San Diego Junior Theater. He directed the New Jersey Shakespeare Festival summer program.

David Berron '95BS/B married Jennifer Darragh on May 8, 1999. He is pursuing a second degree at VCU. They live in Richmond.



## WE'VE GOT THEIR NUMBERS

Alumni recruit top high school seniors for VCU at Phonathon 2000. Often they have the pleasure of announcing scholarship awards to excited students and their families. Among those calling this year were Connie McHale '86BS/H&S/CPA, Emily Hughes '66BS/E '72MEd, Marsha Shuler '74BS '79MA/B, Charles "Chip" Greene '98BS/B and Bill Ginther '69BS '74MS/B.

**Debra (Shorter) Berryman '92MSW** has been a social worker at Greensville Memorial Hospital in South Hill, VA for seven years. She was Employee of the Month for April 1999. She is a member of the Hospice Support Group of Southside Virginia, Inc. and the Alzheimer's Association. She lives with her husband, Bart and son, Jacob in South Hill.

**Kevin Best '91MS/MC** is an account supervisor at Eisner & Associates in Baltimore, MD. He worked for the Martin Agency in Richmond.

**Sheri Blanks '93BS/B** is a DJ at 96.5 The Planet and a rock bassist in Richmond. She plays with Medicine Stick in New York and is trying to get signed. She was runner-up to play bass for Joan Osborne at the Lilith Fair festival.

**Juli Blanton '91BS/B** operates her own business, International Visions, Inc. that specializes in international joint ventures, import/export, marketing and public relations doing most of her work in Eastern Europe especially Poland. She received her MBA from the University of Baltimore in 1999.

**Pamela Bodkin '91BGS** is a columnist and contributing writer for *Restaurant Digest*, a hospitality trade magazine covering Maryland, Virginia and DC. Pamela is also a management analyst for the Virginia Employment Commission in Richmond.

**Jon Bolyard '94BS/H&S** married Rachel Taylor on April 24, 1999. He is a probation and parole officer. They live in Harrisonburg, VA.

**Mary Boyes '98MFA/H&S** is a teacher at Ramapo College of New Jersey, a small public liberal arts school. She lives in Jersey City.

**Alicia Briceland and Richard Gillyard both 'BM** married in Richmond, on April 30. They hold masters' in vocal performance from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, Alicia '96, Richard '99. They are opera singers who live in New Jersey, just outside of NYC. Alicia is a certified teacher of the Alexander Technique, body training especially useful to performers.

**Alex Bridges '96BA/H&S '99BS/MC** after working part-time for the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, is a staff reporter for the *News Journal* in Amelia, VA. He is a poet and guitarist.

**Mark Brodie '94BA '94BA/H&S** teaches English and American studies at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. He has received his master's in American studies and English, and is studying at Bowling Green for a doctorate in that field.

**Angela (DeRusha) Broussard '97BA** married Jason Broussard '97BS/B on November 6, 1999. Angela is a marketing and advertising specialist for Rhodes Furniture. Jason is a project manager for Lloyd Associates.

**Carolyn (Fuss) Browder '95MS/H&S** married Richard Browder '95MS/H&S on April 17, 1999. Carolyn works for Earth Tech, Inc. and Richard works for the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. They live in Richmond.

**Andrea (Dickson) Brown '97MT** married Christopher Brown '91BS/E on August 14, 1999. Andrea works for J.R. Tucker High School, and Chris is Tucker's varsity basketball coach.

**Lynn Brown '97BA/H&S** is senior secretary of the Communication and Theatre Arts Department at Old Dominion University. She is developing a successful business.

**Roger Brown '93BS/H&S** married Beth (Marshall) Brown '91BS/AH '97MD on May 1, 1999. Roger is a certified transplant coordinator and supervisor of the Organ Center at the United Network for Organ Sharing, and Beth is a resident in pediatrics at MCV. They live in Richmond.

**P. Catherine (Pruden) Burkett '96MT** married Benjamin Burkett '95BS/B on June 19, 1999. She teaches eighth-grade social studies in Henrico County and he is the Richmond area franchisee for Freshens Premium Yogurt and Ice Cream. They live in Richmond.

**Elizabeth Burnham '97** teaches for the art department at Barton College in Wilson, NC, where she was visiting assistant professor of photography. She taught at VCU for five years.

**Chad Cameron '94BFA** has illustrated his second children's book, *A Day in the Park with Aunt Charlotte*, by Laurie Weisman, president of the Children's Television Workshop, published in January by Rigby. His illustrations also appear in the January and April issues of *Cricet* magazine for ages 10-14.

**Sloan (Neal) Canaday '98MBA** married Brian Canaday in December 1999. She is a financial analyst for CIGNA Healthcare.

**Angel (Courtney) Carroll '96BS/H&S '99MSW** married Robert Carroll Jr. in June 1999.

**Elizabeth (Dyson) Carter '95MED** married Scott Carter on July 10, 1999. She is an early childhood special education teacher for New Kent County Schools.

**John Chapin '96MFA/H&S** is living in Sri Lanka with his wife, Bambi while she does her dissertation research. His work was published in February in *Lynx Eye*.

**James Clague '94BS/B** is the southern region controller for United Dominion Realty in Richmond.

**Lynn (Sher) Cohen '94MSW** married Hugh Cohen on January 16, 1999. They live in Virginia Beach.

**David Cole '98BA/H&S** married Arlarsandrae (Traynham) on July 17, 1999.

**Kristie (Robertson) Colvin '96BS/H&S** married Jeremy Colvin on January 9, 1999. She is a territory manager for Kos Pharmaceuticals. They live in Waynesboro, VA.

**Amy Consiglio '99MFA/H&S** won third place in *Richmond Magazine's* 4th Annual Short Story and Poetry Contest for her story *The Transformation of Penny Thurman*. Her story appeared in the August 1999 issue of the magazine.

**Patricia (Woods) Cooke '94BS/MC** married Jeffrey Cooke on March 6, 1999. She is an art and media director for Ginn

Advertising in Richmond. They live in Henrico.

**Gregory Cooper '99MSW** is the program coordinator of the Ronald McNair Program at East Tennessee State University in the James H. Quillen College of Medicine. He lives in Johnson City, Tennessee.

**Heather (Clarke) Copeland '97BA/A** married Douglas Copeland on June 19, 1999. She is an operations coordinator for Newport News Shipbuilding. They live in Yorktown, VA.

**Meredith (Boyko) Covert '99BS/E** married Christopher Covert on June 5, 1999.

**Charles Craven Jr. '92BS/H&S '95MBA** is vice president of Sydnor Hydro, Inc. in Richmond. He is also responsible for the operation and profitability of the Mechanical Construction and Service Divisions.

**Deanna (Walton) Cronin '98MT** married Edward Cronin on June 26, 1999. She is a teacher for Hanover County. They live in Montpelier, VA.

**Dana Crum '96MFA/H&S** is an English teacher at Horace Mann, an independent school in New York City. He had an excerpt from his novel published in *The Source*, a national music magazine, in April, 1999. Dana's work has appeared in this magazine several times and may appear again in the near future.

**Cindy Cunningham '92MFA/H&S** is a visiting lecturer at Georgia State University in Atlanta. She earned her PhD in English Literature emphasizing American Literature in August, 1999. Her dissertation was on ghost stories in the realism and naturalism period.

**Katherine (Williams) Cutright '97BS/B** married Jimmy Cutright, Jr. on April 10, 1999. She works for Lanna, Dunlap, and Spriggs, P.C.

**Bethany (Lafon) Dancy '99BS/MC** married Elias Dancy '99BFA on June 25, 1999. They live in Richmond.

**Kelley Daspi '91BS/MC** is Crown American marketing and public relations director for Patrick Henry Mall in Newport News, VA. She was recently accredited in public relations by the Public Relations Society of America Universal Accreditation Board.

**R. Bryan David '90MURP** is the Brunswick County administrator having worked for the county since 1997. He was director of planning and zoning in Isle of Wight County in VA. He is a member of several professional affiliations including the American Institute of Certified Planners. He lives with his wife, Jamie and three children, Anne, Mary Paige, and Lane in Lawrenceville, VA.

**Brian Davis '92BS/H&S** is senior strategic planner in the Workforce Investment Act Unit of the Virginia Employment Commission in Richmond. He was deputy zoning administrator for Caroline County, VA.

**H. Al Davis '95MSW** is program manager for Adult Outpatient Clinical Services at Rockbridge Area Community Services (RACS) in Lexington, VA. He has

worked for RACS for fifteen years providing mental health and substance abuse treatment for adults. He is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a Certified Substance Abuse Counselor, a Certified Addictions Counselor, and a Certified Clinical Supervisor.

**Andrea DeArment '93MS/H&S** is a toxicologist in the Toxicology Department at MCV.

**Charlene (Gamba) Della Ratta '91BFA** married J. Raphael Della Ratta on June 26, 1999. She is an art director at Olympus Group, Inc. in Alexandria, VA. They live in Glenwood, MD.

**Sara (Goad) Dickey '96MED** married Thomas Dickey on August 8, 1999. She works for Henrico County Schools. They live in Richmond.

**Gail (Lewis) Douthat '98MT** married Filding Douthat on June 5, 1999. She teaches computer skills at an Episcopal boys school and to senior citizens at the University of Richmond.

**Roland Dowdy III '93BM** and his wife, Dawn (Hill) Dowdy '93BM are featured on AUR's CD release *America's Millennium Tribute to Adolphe Sax, Vol. II*, a recording of concert saxophonists. It includes the world premiere recording of VCU Professor Emeritus Allan Blank's *Two Pieces for Alto Saxophone and Piano*. Roland is assistant to the associate dean for administration at Northwestern University School of Music in Evanston, IL. The couple lives in Winnetka, IL.

**Kimberley Duncan '96MS/H&S** is a forensic DNA analyst at Cellmark Diagnostics in Germantown, Maryland.

**Susan Eads '90BSW '99MS/RC/AH** is a professional social worker at the Virginia Home in Richmond.

**Danielle Elliott '98MED** is an elementary guidance counselor at Rappahannock Elementary School in Middlesex County, VA.

**Roselyn Elliott '95MFA/H&S** is editorial director for *September Days*, a travel magazine for the Days Inn club membership. She is also a member of the adjunct faculty in the VCU English department. Roselyn just finished a poetry manuscript, *Sleepwalking Nude*, and a nonfiction manuscript of 21 narratives, *The Way Back*, which are both awaiting publishers. Her poetry will appear in *Madiphors*. She also is freelances for the Bergman Group, an advertising and public relations agency in Richmond. She lives with her husband, Les Bares in Kents Store, VA.

**David Ellis '97MFA/H&S** was a semi-finalist for the Nation Discovery Prize in poetry. He lives in Roanoke, VA.

**Susan (Schraeder) Elrod '96BS/H&S '96MT** married Joseph Elrod Jr. in July 1999. She teaches in Henrico County Public Schools.

**Stephanie (Reitz) Engel '96BS/B** married Anthony Engel '97BS/B on May 15, 1999. She works at PrimeCo and he works for KSB, Inc. of Richmond. They live in Gum Spring, VA.

**Amy (Johnson) Ettinger '99MURP** married Matthew Ettinger '99MS/H&S on May 22, 1999. Amy works for the Virginia

Department of Emergency Services. Matthew is an adjunct professor at VCU. They live in Richmond.

**Tara (Bouldin) Evans '92BFA** married James Evans on September 5, 1998. She is a graphic artist for the Bell Atlantic Yellow Pages in Richmond, where they live.

**\*Amy (Blaha) Everett '99BS/B** married Christopher Everett in January 2000. She works for the Bank of Southside Virginia.

**Victoria (Harper) Fajna '91BA/H&S '95MSW** married John Fajna in August 1999.

**Aylen Fallah-Zenouz '98BFA** is an artist that uses mixed-media sculpture to show themes of war, death, and the female experience in Iran and many Middle Eastern nations. Her family fled Iran to Turkey and later America in 1984. Her work has been described as "a wonderful marriage of material and content." Her works have been displayed in several galleries including A. Salon's Wilson Center Gallery and The National Press Club in Washington, DC.

**\*Rebecca (Rawlings) Falls '99MT** married Byron Falls on August 7, 1999.

**\*Cameo (Fox) Faulkner '99MSW** married Carlton Faulkner on June 12, 1999. They live in Suitland, MD.

**Mary (Hayden) Feldmeth '94BS/E** married Robert Feldmeth in July, 1999. She is a corporate sales manager for the Omni Netherlands Plaza in Cincinnati.

**Allison (Benner) Felton '98MAE** married Jeffrey Felton in May, 1999. She teaches art in Richmond.

**Tamara (Hardman) Ferreira '94BFA** married Eric Ferreira in August 1999. She is an elementary art teacher and a staff member of the Fine Arts Administration Office for Fairfax Public Schools.

**Angela (Ervin) Flowers '93BS/B** is the coordinator of the pension information and counseling project for the Crater District Area Agency on Aging in Petersburg, VA. The project educates older Americans on their pension rights and helps them resolve pension issues. She is married to **Hellion Flowers Jr. '93BS/B**.

**Jeffrey Fogg '91BS/B** married Margaret (Spiggle) Fogg on February 13, 1999. He works for Hecht's department store at Fair Oaks. They live in Alexandria, VA.

**Thomas Foley '93MPA** is county executive for community development and public safety for Albemarle County. He was county administrator for Caroline County and Cumberland County, and has worked as a staff associate with the Virginia Association of Counties.

**Susan (Harrell) Ford '98BFA** married Michael Ford on June 12, 1999. She works for Burney Design in Raleigh, NC where they live.

**Clarence Forman Jr. '90BS/H&S** is Assistant Counsel with the Disabled Persons Protection Commission in Massachusetts. He graduated from New England School of Law in 1997. Clarence lives with his wife, Lora and son in Marlborough, MA.

**\*Thomas Foster '94MBA** married Stacy (Taylor) Foster on March 13, 1999. He is a budget manager for Overnite Transportation Co. They live in Richmond.

**Lisa Freedlander '95BS/MC** is pursuing a master's in public health degree at the University of South Carolina.

**Thomas Fulcher, Jr. '93BGS/NTS** married Augusta Allaun on June 19, 1999. He works at Micor Sprinklers and Landscaping. The couple lives in Virginia Beach.

**\*Freddie Fuller II '93BS/H&S** has been the director of planning for the Greater Richmond Transit Company (GRTC) for one year. His wife, **\*Alitasha Courtney-Fuller '96BS/B** is the campaign director of the statewide Team in Training Program for the Leukemia Society of America. They live in Glen Allen, VA.

**Corey Fyke '98MA/H&S** married Jennifer Crowley in Stonington, CT. He is a promotions coordinator for Ulbrich Stainless Steels and Special Metals, Inc. They live in Wallingford, CT.

**Christine Garland '93MSW** is the director of case management services for JABA. She is a member of the National Association of Social Workers. She was admission and new services coordinator for Hope House in Norfolk, VA. She and her husband, Brent live in Scottsville, VA.

**Pam Garvey '97MFA/H&S** will have poems in *The Sonora Review* and *Yemassee*. She and her husband, John live in St. Louis.

**Mary Gawne '93BS/MC** is a cancer survivor and volunteer for the Leukemia Society's First Connection program. She is an account manager at Fine Arts Engraving Co.

**Robert Goddard III '95MFA** is a classically trained actor. He was in St. Bart Players' revival of Moss Hart's *Light Up The Sky in Manhattan*. He has performed in Virginia Shakespeare Festival in several roles. He and his wife, Mattia have a son, Robert Goddard IV.

**Kim Golden '95MFA/H&S** married Tord Malmgren on May 12, 1999 at Stockholm's Raadhust.

**Mary (Brown) Graham '97BS/H&S** married Bradley Graham on April 3, 1999. She is pursuing a master's degree in special education at Old Dominion University and works for Henry County Public Schools. They live in Martinsville, VA.

**\*Judy Granger '98BGS** is married to **\*Richard Granger '79BS '83MS/H&S**. They have three children, Jeffrey, George and Joseph and live in Glen Allen, VA. Judy completed her degree while working full-time and maintaining her wife and mother position.

**Amy (Planz) Gray '98BFA** married Mark Gray in October 1999. She is self-employed.

**Jennifer (White) Gray '97MED** married Jonathan Gray '99BS/MC on December 18, 1999. She works for Carolina County Public Schools.

**David Gross '90MHA** is an administrator at Wilmington Sargare in Wilmington, NC with Symbion

Ambulatory Resource Centers, Inc. of Nashville, TN.

**\*Muriel Guattery '99MFA** is acting and working at Theatre IV in Richmond under the name Jeanie Rule.

**Denise (Francis) Gunderson '98BS/MC** married Jeremy Gunderson on March 20, 1999. She works for Enterprise, Incorporated. The couple lives in Richmond.

**Eric Hackett '99BS/H&S** married Bridgett (Carneal) Hackett on June 19, 1999.

**Sandra (Andrews) Hall '92BA/H&S** married John Hall III in September 1999. She is a paralegal at Wright, Robinson, Osthimer & Tatum and active in the Junior League of Richmond.

**Lynn Hamilton '91BS/H&S** married Cynthia (Judd) Hamilton on June 19, 1999. He works for Page County Public Schools and is pursuing a master's degree in special education from Old Dominion University.

**Jay Hamlett Jr. '98BFA** has a studio in Victoria, VA, and was in a show in Charlottesville in April 1999. His portraits of pets, people, and homes are in colored pencil, pen-and-ink, acrylic, and oil paints. He says, "I strive for realism in my work that makes my subject come alive."

**Alainya Hare '93BS/H&S** is a staff podiatrist at Watauga Podiatry in Tennessee. She received her doctor of podiatric medicine in 1997 from the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine.

**Mary (Winder) Harrell '98MED** married Christopher Harrell in December 1999.

**\*Jason Hart '94BS '97MS '99PhD/H&S** is an assistant professor of psychology at Stephen F. Austin State University.

**Lara (Brady) Haynie '91BFA** is the owner and art director for *Chesapeake Angler Magazine* in Burgess, VA.

**Kristen (Verderosa) Hess '98MT** is a special education history teacher at Lee-Davis High School in Mechanicsville, VA. She married David Hess on June 6, 1998. They live in Charles City County, VA.

**\*Kirsten Hirsch '93BFA** is the assistant director of commuter and information services for the University Student Commons at VCU.

**Stephanie (Creedle) Hobbs '97C/B** married Alfred Hobbs on October 16, 1999. She is an MIS analyst with Capital One.

**Darnley Hodge Jr. '98BS/MC** a.k.a. Mello D, and his band, The Rados released Backsliding on the label Thermite Records. He was introduced at a live listening party by Fingerprint Productions.

**Shannon (Smith) Horan '96BS/B** married Brendan Horan on September 26, 1998. They live in Richmond.

**Jarl Jackson '94BGS/NTS** is a historic analyst in the Master Site File for the Florida Division of Historical Resources.

**Nancy (Richardson) Jadatz '96BFA** married Stephen Jadatz on June 5, 1999. She teaches art in Middlesex County School System. They live in King and Queen County, VA.

**Melissa James '99MSW** works for the Tucker Psychiatric Pavilion of Chippendale Medical Center in Richmond.

**Bill Jenkins '90MFA** wrote *What to Do When the Police Leave: A Guide to the First Days of Traumatic Loss*, released in its Second Edition in October, 1999. He is currently a speech and drama professor at Virginia Union University in Richmond.

**\*Charlotte (Lawson) Jenson '94MT** received her CPP, Certified Payroll Professional license in 1997 and is working on her CEBS, Certified Employee Benefit Specialist designation through independent study from the University of Pennsylvania. She is a payroll and HR administrator for Automatic Equipment Sales of Virginia, Inc. in Richmond. Charlotte lives with her husband, Dennis in Glen Allen.

**\*Terry Johns '98BS/H&S** is assistant administrator to the dean of academic affairs at St. Andrews College in Laurinburg, NC.

**Ryan Johnson '98BA/H&S** married Margaret (Tucker) Johnson on October 3, 1998. He works for Capital One, and they live in Richmond.

**Rendell Jones '94BS/B** received one of the annual Justice Management Division (JMD), US Department of Justice Special Commendation Awards for his work on the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA). It was presented by Attorney General Janet Reno and Assistant Attorney General for Administration Stephen Colgate. Rendell is a budget analyst for the US Department of Justice and lives in Silver Spring, MD.

**Kwadwo Agymah Kamau '92MFA/H&S** had his second novel, *Pictures of a Dying Man*, released in September, 1999 by Coffee House Press. He received good advance reviews in *Publisher's Weekly*, *Library Journal* and *Booklist*.

**\*Deborah Kirk '91BS/B** is the director of marketing for Joyce Engineering, Inc. She and her husband, S. Mark Flippo live in Salem, VA.

**Nicola Kohler '98MS/H&S** is a forensic science trainee specializing in trace evidence at the Virginia Division of Forensic Science headquarters lab.

**Rosalyn Koontz '94MBA** married David Hurd on May 6, 1999. They live in Winston-Salem, NC.

**Karin (Schlange) Kraft '93BFA** married Richard Kraft Jr. on December 12, 1998. They live in Annapolis, MD.

**Steve Krause '90MFA/H&S** is an assistant professor at Eastern Michigan University. He teaches undergraduate and graduate composition and rhetoric specializing in computers and writing.

**Sara Kukorlo '98BS/MC** is public affairs coordinator for the American Statistical Association in Alexandria, VA. She was an internal communications specialist for the American Diabetes Association.

**R. Clarke Land '92BS/B** is a Commercial Real Estate Sales Agent with Porter Realty Inc. in Ashland, VA. He was a business development executive with GE Capital.





ANNE LAWVER '76BSA

# CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

## Nancy Everett '78BS/B

BY SHARON BALDACCI '79BS/MC

To a layman's eyes, anyone tapped to be the chief investment officer of a huge pension fund worth billions surely must have a crystal ball in her pocket.

Not so, says Nancy Everett. She was named to this position at the Virginia Retirement System in December, 1998, after 20 years of steadily climbing to the top. She explains the beauty of her job and why dips in the market don't send her into a panic.

"Current economic conditions will always have an impact on my job, but probably not in the manner you imagine. Our focus is very long-term—30 years—and this allows us to ride out any short-term volatility in the markets. We do not necessarily need to react to short-term market trends."

Everett is the one in charge of managing and growing the \$49 billion fund generating pensions for 95,000 state and local government employees. It's a task she takes seriously. "I absolutely feel that moral responsibility and I am proud to consider myself a public servant, not only helping out the retirees, but also in the long run, the taxpayers of the Commonwealth." Because of this, she is compelled to make "only the best business decisions on their behalf. It would be very difficult to allow other interests to impact those decisions."

With a 1978 accounting degree from VCU, Everett thought at first she might go to law school. "Six months working in a law firm was all it took to change my mind. So then I really had no idea what I wanted to do."

As she scanned want ads looking for inspiration, it struck. The Virginia Retirement System was looking for an accountant interested in learning computer programming. This was 1979 and programming was just going mainstream, so she sent in her resume.

Her interview consisted of "talking briefly to the CIO [the job she holds now] and taking a 20 question logic test. He called me back the next day, and I got the job. He said I was the only one to score higher on the test than he did," she chuckles.

Everett was hired when the VRS was just coming through a "terrible fraud case where there was some serious embezzling going on." Because of that, internal controls were tightened. At that time, the investment staff was only four people. The CIO was doing everything else, from trading the securities to settling the trades and accounting for the transactions. "They needed someone with an accounting background to write the systems to do accounts for the portfolios. So that's where I started."

She readily credits VCU with teaching her the basics, and has fond memories of many of her professors. "The last year and half of my time there, I lived at the business school," she recalls. But she quickly realized that to get where she wanted to be, she needed more education.

"It wasn't long before I realized that the guys managing the money were having a lot more fun and making a lot more money than I was. It was a ton more interesting than computer programming," she told the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*. She determined to move out of the systems end and into investments.

She defined her problem as a lack of credibility, so she went after Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Certification, a three-year program run by the Association for Investment Management and Research in Charlottesville. She finished in 1987 and soon began managing equities.

She comments that "everything else just fell into place," but it was her focus and commitment to her work that got her to the position she ultimately wanted. "Being the CIO was always my goal. I guess I was fairly fortunate to have had that clear vision early on."

When she took the job, the *Times-Dispatch* reported that Everett was "one of a growing number of women supervising public pension systems" in the United States. The largest, California's \$130 billion CALPERS fund, is headed by a woman.

Although the fund is administered with an eye on long-term gains, Everett recalled the market crash of 1987. "This fund 'lost' over a billion dollars on paper. This does not look good. Additionally, because we were

so underweight in our equity allocation after this happened, our plan called for us to buy stocks. Well, you can just imagine how much courage" it took to step up and start buying when it literally felt like the whole world was ending. Yet history proved they were right in the long run. "If you look at a chart of the cumulative return of the equity market over the last 20 years, 1987 is just a blip. But temporary conditions can make my job of 'staying the course' much more difficult."

It sounds like a frantic pace and immense pressure, but Everett doesn't see it that way. "The average day as CIO is more administrative than you imagine. We have a staff of 20 investment professionals. These people run the actual investment programs, managing around 25 percent of the assets in house and monitoring 25 to 30 investment managers and almost 100 partnerships investing our assets all over the world." The division must also make frequent reports to the System's Board of Trustees.

A great deal of time and thought goes into strategic evaluation of "where we are, and planning where we need to focus in the future." And it's effective. "I always knew that if I was given the opportunity to manage the Program, it could be successful. It was a function of watching the fund evolve from a small, average government pension fund to the sophisticated 32nd largest pension fund in the world." Now, that's fun.

For more fun, Everett and her husband, Robin Blandford '83MBA, enjoy running and equestrian dressage, riding and jumping. A recent week-long vacation seemed to prove that time is money. On Monday morning, first thing, Everett faced more than 100 e-mails. She joked ruefully, "Maybe I shouldn't take vacations." And plunged into her other fun.

*Sharon Baldacci is an award-winning freelance journalist who lives in Heathsville, Virginia. Her VCU family includes brothers David Baldacci '83BA/H&S, a lawyer who writes best-selling thrillers, and designer Rudi Baldacci '76BFA.*

**Stephen Landi '93BS/B** married Christine (Micheline) Landi on October 10, 1998. He is district manager for Coyne Textile Services in Colonial Heights. They live in Richmond.

**Julie (Son) Linker '97MS '99PhD/** H&S works at the Virginia Treatment Center for Children at MCV Hospitals of VCU. She is establishing a private practice.

**Denise (Turak) Lockman '92BFA** has been an interior designer for Serenians Floor Coverings in Madison, WI for six years.

**Nathan Long '99MFA/H&S** is an assistant professor of English and Creative Writing at Virginia Union University. He was the first recipient of the Truman Capote Literary Trust Scholarship.

**Christine (Prestage) Longfield '96BS/B** is a CPA working as a senior consultant with Deloitte and Touche LLP in the Dispute Consulting Group. She lives with her husband, Eric in Washington, DC.

**David Maloney '90MURP** is deputy director of planning in Hanover, VA. He was director of planning/assistant county administrator for New Kent County. He is a member of the American Planning Association and a Certified Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program Administrator. He lives in Hanover County with his wife, Lynn and two children, Daniel and Erin.

**Suzanne (Wisniewski) Markel '98MT** married Jeff Markel '97BS/MC on July 10, 1999. Suzanne teaches at John M. Gandy Elementary School. Jeff works for the Cintas Corporation.

**Richard Matthews '95BGS/NTS** is a lieutenant in the US Navy. He lives in California.

**Michelle (Necessary) McLeod '99MT** married Kevin McLeod in August, 1999.

**Jo Anne (Paruszkiewicz) McClung '94BS/H&S** married John McClung on September 19, 1998. He works for VCU. They live in Richmond.

**Victoria (Shreves) McCormick '97BS/H&S** married Sean McCormick on May 15, 1999. She is an MR training specialist in Hanover County Community Services in Hanover, VA.

**Scott McPherson '96MD '99MFA/H&S** is doing an internship at Tulane University in New Orleans, LA.

**Mary (Georges) Meares '94MED** married Austin Meares on February 20, 1999. She works for the Charleston County school system. They live in Charleston, SC.

**\*Matthew Mendez '99MHA** is site administrator at Pender Memorial Hospital in Burgaw, NC. He has worked with the New Hanover Health Network since June 1998.

**Theodora Merry '96BFA '98MFA/A** is executive director of the Neighborhood School of the Arts in Richmond. Three of her sculptures appeared in the Chrysler Museum of Fine Arts' 34th Annual Irene Leache Memorial exhibition in Norfolk, VA.

**Alan Middleton '93BS MS/B** is an assistant professor of Business Management Technology at Ohio

University in Lancaster. He lives with his wife, Valerie and daughter, Emily outside of Columbus, OH.

**Andrew Miller '97MFA/H&S** and his wife, Inge Hoyer '97BA celebrated the birth of their daughter, Hannah on January 18, 1999. They live in Copenhagen. Andrew's poem *The Novel of the Green Jade* was named the Yemassee award winner, appearing in the Summer/Fall issue of the magazine. Also, he and **John Venable '96MFA/H&S** edited *The Gazer Within: Selected Essays by Larry Lewis*, which was accepted by the University of Michigan Press Poets on Poetry series. It should be released this year.

**Kelli Miller '91BS/MC** is a freelance science news writer and video producer in Atlanta, GA. Her clients include The Weather Channel, Inside Science TV News, SweepsFeed syndicated news service and many more. She was in the news business for ten years.

**Catherine Minich '96BFA** won first prize in the annual COLLAB Student Design Competition at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA. She created a wrist-watch from state-of-the-art stereo-lithog-

raphy based on the theme for the competition, "clocks for the New Millennium."

**Catherine (Coppit) Minter '96BS/H&S '96MT** is married and lives in Chester, VA.

**John Morgan '91MFA** is an art professor at Sweet Briar College and an instructor at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond and at the Nimrod Artists' Summer Workshop in Bath County. His work has been exhibited around Virginia, New York, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. John and his wife, Charlotte, live in Rockbridge Alum Springs, VA. He has a studio in Goshen, VA.

**Darren Morris '98MFA/H&S** was a semi-finalist for the Nation/Discovery Prize and a runner up in the Sow's Ear national poetry competition for a single poem. He was also a finalist in Story Line's national first book prize for a complete manuscript and a finalist for a group of poems at Writers at Work in Utah. He is married to **Jessica (Isaacs) Morris '97MSW**.

**Jonathan Morris '97BA/H&S** married Jennifer Proffitt on May 15, 1999. He is a financial specialist with First Union. They live in Richmond.

**Melanie (Kintigh) New '93MED** married James New on September 19, 1998. She works for Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation in Northern Virginia. They live in Old Town Alexandria.

**Joe Nio '93BS/B '00MS/MC** graduated from the Adcenter this May and heads for NYC to work for DWEK, a small agency that expects to grow very fast.

**\*Biljana Obradovic '91MFA/H&S** started a tenure-track Creative Writing Poetry position at Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans, LA this past fall.

**\*Heather (Donaldson) O'Donnell '94BFA** is working part-time at the James A. Michener Art Museum in Doylestown, PA while she finishes her master's in art education at Temple University. She also substitute teaches in Bucks County, PA. Heather married Matthew O'Donnell on May 1, 1999.

**Margaret (Ryan) Ogden '90BS/MC** married John Ogden on October 3, 1998. She is president and founder of MOR Public Relations, Inc. in San Francisco, where they live.

**Jennifer (Roper) O'Keeffe '97BS/MC** married John O'Keeffe in April 1999. She works for Capital One.

**Colin O'Malley '98BFA** is working for Mancini and Duffy in the World Trade Center in Manhattan. Current projects include work with Merrill Lynch and the St. Moritz Hotel near Central Park.

**Kristin Onuf '97MFA** is an artist and an adjunct professor at Piedmont Virginia Community College in Charlottesville, VA. Her work combines media of oil, collage, charcoal and wax. She is also the coordinator of Art Reach. Kristin's works have been shown in several one-person exhibits in Charlottesville and Richmond.

**Phaedra (Staton) Oubre '94BS/H&S** is the director of undergraduate enrollment at the Savannah College of Art & Design in Georgia. She is married to **John Oubre '94BS/B**.

**Tracy Pace '92BS/MC** returned recently from the Republic of Benin, West Africa where he was a Peace Corps volunteer for two years. He was a community health and development volunteer teaching HIV/AIDS prevention and family planning. He lives in Washington, DC.

**Aaron Perlut '93BS/MC** is communications coordinator for Moseley Harris & McClintock, an architecture and engineering firm. He lives in Richmond and still loves pork by-products. He planned to marry in November 1999.

**Larkin Phillips '93PhD/E** is Virginia Vocational Teacher of the Year.

**Julie (White) Pierce '98MA** married David Pierce on December 29, 1998. They live in East Stroudsburg, PA.

**Brian Pike '92BS '94MS '96PhD/H&S** is an assistant research professor in the Department of Neuroscience at the University of Florida, College of Medicine. His research involves investigation of cellular and molecular mechanisms contributing to neuronal cell death and neurodegeneration after traumatic brain injury.

**Tanya Piotrowski-Hickam '91BS '93MS/AH(RC)** is a vocational supervisor for severely mentally ill adults with Community Alliance in Omaha, NE. She received LPC for the state of New Jersey. She lives with her husband, Michael in Bellevue, NE.

**Albert Pollard '91BS/H&S** married Mariah (Mears) Pollard on April 3, 1999. They live in Irvington, VA. Albert was recently elected to the House of Delegates taking Delegate Tayloe Murphy's seat. His campaign was the "most-watched and well-run races in the state and he was one of the few Democrats who won an open seat." Albert is the statewide director of the Virginia chapter of the Sierra Club as well.

**John Mark Power '98BA/H&S** is a member of the Billy Carlisle Trio, a jazz-meets-Celtic-blue grass group. He plays across Virginia at weddings, book stores and outdoor festivals. He works with his brother as a gardener by day in the Waterford area.

**Martha (O'Neal) Pugh '92MS/H&S** married Gary Pugh Jr. on May 1, 1999. She is director of the Victim's Witness Program for the City of Colonial Heights.

**Veronica (Whitlow) Quinley '93BFA** married **Todd Quinley '91BS/B** on May 15, 1999. She works for GTE Wireless and is working on her master's degree. He is a supervisor for Robbins Landscaping in Chester. They live in Richmond.

**Consuella (Barbour) Rapp '94BS/H&S** married Steven Rapp on May 15, 1999. She is a management analyst in Montgomery County where the couple resides.

**Michael Reynolds '97BS/B** is customer operations manager for GTE's West District operations. He was in telecommunications since 1978 and

## In Memory



### Designing a legacy

John Ten Eyck Hilton, who died this March at 83, leaves as his legacy VCU's Department of Communication Arts and Design. As first department chair in 1952 at what was then Richmond Professional Institute, Hilton devoted two decades to building communication arts and design into one of the largest departments at RPI as well as a nationally renowned educational center for graphic design and illustration.

"Jack Hilton cared deeply about students and brought a single-minded zeal to developing the strongest possible programs," said VCU colleague, Professor Philip Meggs. Hilton also created photography and film programs that later became an independent department at VCU, and were recently approved as a new major.

Before joining RPI's faculty in 1950, Hilton exhibited widely as a graphic designer, landscape designer and painter. He was department head until 1970 when he returned to full-time teaching until he retired in 1982.



### "Not an ivory tower kind of guy"

Dr. Leigh Edmund Grosenick, professor of political science and public administration at VCU since 1975, died of leukemia this past December at 64. "He loved dealing with people and loved his students," said his wife, Elizabeth Lowry Andrews. "He stayed in touch with students years after they graduated."

In his first year as director and sole faculty member of a master's degree program in public administration, he had only two students, she says. But the program grew, and in 1981 he organized a doctor of public administration program for the School of Community Services. Both VCU programs have graduated more than 600 students.

His wife continues, "He was always interested in ethics, and during the mid-1970s, with Watergate and the Vietnam War, there was a lot of raw material to work with."

Dr. Nelson Wikstrom, chair of political science and public administration, adds, "He was interested in ethics not only from a theoretical point of view—he wasn't an ivory tower kind of guy—but also in terms of ethics' larger role in the governmental work force."

Grosenick served in Army military intelligence in South Korea in the late 1950s. He chaired public administration from 1975-81 and 1991-94. He was president of the School of Community Service faculty 1983-85.

worked as Access Design section manager. He lives with his wife, Cheryl and son, Jesse in the Harrisonburg/Rockingham County area.

**Sheri Reynolds '92MFA/H&S** gave the Cabell Lecture at VCU's Library for 2000. She is an English professor at Old Dominion University. Her novel, *The Rapture of Canaan*, was chosen for Oprah's Book Club. Her latest book is *A Gracious Plenty*. She was a McGee Professor at Davidson College in 1998-99.

**Vanessa (von Schrader) Roberts '95BS/B** married John Roberts Jr. in October 1998. She is a branch administrator for Cable & Wireless, USA in Richmond.

**Whitney Roberts '98BFA** is a graphic designer for Access Inc. of Roanoke, VA.

**\*Anthony Robinson '97BA/H&S** is a customer support technologies representative for Whitehall Robins Healthcare in Richmond. He worked for the Daily Planet as a substance abuse counselor after graduation.

**Kristy Robinson '99BS/H&S** began her first year in a four-year Doctor of Optometry program at Pennsylvania College of Optometry of Elkins Park, PA, in August, 1999. She was a lab technician for Virginia Labs and Consultants.

**Mary (Kalopodes) Saunders '91BS '97MPA/H&S** married Michael Saunders on August 8, 1998. She works for BAX Global Inc. They live in Richmond.

**\*Jacques Scott '94BS/H&S** is assistant planner and zoning officer for the Town of Vinton, VA. He received his master's in urban planning from the University of Virginia. Jacques lives in Roanoke, VA.

**Shannon Secrist '93BFA** writes, "I have two of the most perfect children in the world," Cody and Hunter. She moved to Utah with Stacy Swarthout '94BFA where they both met and married their husbands in a matter of a few months. Each has two children now. Shannon would love to hear from her pals and says, "Noel, where are you?"

**Eric Seidlitz '91BM** married Amy (Gifford) on January 23, 1999. They live in Richmond.

**Sonya Seltzer '91BS/H&S** is Charlotte-Mecklenburg County Sheriff in Charlotte, North Carolina.

**Melissa (Duncan) Short** married Herbert Short Jr., both '98BS/B in May 1999. She is a compensation specialist for Media General Inc. He is a consultant for Keiter Stephens Computer Services Inc.

**Sheri (Broadus) Short '90BFA** married William Short III on October 17, 1998. She is a senior merchandising manager for J.C. Penney Co. Inc.

**Valerie Siddons '93BS/E** owns Executive Concierge, a fast-growing company that supplies Concierges to hotels and companies, in Richmond.

**Theresa (Vollenweider) Sims '97BS/B** married Darrell Sims on May 22, 1999. She works for Forenboard Federal Credit Union. They live in Mechanicsville, VA.

**Adrian Smith '90BS/B** opened Congress Street Public House, a restaurant in the Shenandoah Valley featuring

upscale contemporary country cooking, last year in New Market, VA. She invites everyone to come.

**Eric Smith '91MBA** is vice president in the Akron, OH office of URS Greiner Woodward Clyde (URS). He has been with this firm for five years. He has expertise in traffic engineering and transportation planning from 15 years of experience in several positions in Richmond and Connecticut. Eric was a part-time professor at the University of Akron Graduate School of Engineering.

**Jeffrey Smith '94Med**, former recipient of the William C. Boshier Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement, is the principal at John M. Gandy Elementary School in Hanover County. He has been the principal at Washington District School since 1994.

**Mary (Matthews) Smith '94BA/H&S** married Jason Smith in October 1998. She works in the film industry.

**Ronald Smith Jr. '94BA/H&S** married Angela (Holloway) Smith in August 1999. He works for Capital Management Advisory, Inc.

**\*Amy (Hundley) Sperber '97Med** married Richard Sperber on June 26, 1999. She teaches kindergarten in Prince George County. They live in Colonial Heights, VA.

**Maranda Stokes '99MSW** is a mental health clinician for the Employee Assistance Program with the Recovery Center of Gaston, Lincoln, and Cleveland counties in Gastonia, NC.

**Karen (Case) Tanenbaum '90MSW** is a psychiatric social worker for Kaiser Permanent Psychiatric Department in Pleasanton, CA. She married Jules Tanenbaum on August 21, 1999 and they live in Lafayette, CA.

**Christopher Taylor '96 '97BS/B** married Christine (Kehoe) Taylor on September 12, 1998. He is a field technician for WANG Inc. They live in Highland Springs.

**Daphne (Parrish) Taylor '98MT** married R.T. Taylor '99BS/B on June 19, 1999. Daphne works for the Prince George County School System and R.T. works for Ernst and Young. They live in Chester, VA.

**Carrie (Penley) Todd '97BS/MC** married Monte Todd in August 1999. She is an account executive at WRVQ-FM in Richmond.

**\*Alice Toth '94BFA** earned a Master of Architecture from Virginia Tech in August, 1999. She is a senior designer integrating products with the Internet at ART.COM. She lives in Chicago.

**David Van Gelder '93C/H&S '96MPA** is utilities director in Winchester, VA. He was wastewater utility administrator for Richmond's Department of Public Utilities. He has worked in utilities for 20 years and holds a Class I waterworks and wastewater operator's license in VA. He and his wife, Anne have a son, Wesley.

**\*Jeanne Verostko '91BS/B** is an analyst in the Policy Compliance Department at the United Network for Organ Sharing in Richmond.

**\*Wendy Vick '95BA/H&S** plans to marry Jeremy Willis in October 2000 in

San Antonio, TX. They met at St. Mary's School of Law, where Wendy graduated on May 16, 1999 in San Antonio. She was president of the school's Public Interest Law Association and received St. Mary's Pro Bono Award. She is an attorney with Texas Rural Legal Aid in poverty law, focusing on the rights of children and battered women. Wendy has sarcoid sarcoidosis, an immune deficiency disease that affects only 3 percent of the population. Because it is rare and resembles pneumonia and tuberculosis, diagnosis is difficult, and Wendy would like to raise public awareness of it.

**Kenneth Wagner '96BS '97C '98MS/H&S** is an adjunct faculty member at John Tyler Community College. He received a fellowship to attend the public policy PhD program at VCU. He and his wife live in Sandston.

**Lynette (Purdy) Wakefield '95BS/H&S '97BS/AH** married Carey Wakefield on September 4, 1999. She is a nuclear medicine technologist at Mary Washington Hospital in Fredericksburg, VA where they live.

**David Wallis '94MS/H&S** is a sergeant with the Richmond Police Department where he has served for 12 years. He received the City of Richmond Excellent Police Duty Award for 1999. He is a member of SWAT and a hazardous device technician.

**Jeffrey Warden '92 '95BFA** married Lisa (Robertson) Warden on March 6, 1999. He is an upper school art teacher at Cape Henry Collegiate School.

**\*Julie Watkins '91BFA '97MT** is a kindergarten teacher for the Evergreen School District in San Jose, CA. She lives in Sunnyvale, CA.

**Molly (Tully) Wenzler '93BA/H&S** married Paul Wenzler on September 4,

1999. She is an instructional designer for Virginia Power.

**Lauren (Diamond) Williams '91BA/H&S** married Mark Williams in October 1999. She is a media buyer for S&K Famous Brands Men's Wear in Richmond.

**Ruthanne (Raniszewski) Wilson '94BFA** married Robert Wilson '90BFA on May 2, 1999. She is a graphic designer for Craver, Matthews, Smith & Co. in Falls Church, VA. He is manager and photographer at Expressly Portraits in Tysons Corner, VA. They live in Alexandria, VA.

**Dennis Yerby '97BS/H&S** married Angela Jackson on July 10, 1999.

**Yvonne Young '98BS/B** is doing an extensive study on blended families for Dr. Pamela Kieker, chair of VCU's Marketing Department.

**Kevin Zimmerman '90BS/MC** has been an editor at the Medfield Press in Medfield, MA since 1998.

**David Zivan '91MFA** is associate editor of *Chicago Magazine*. He contributed 10 sketch biographies of athletes to ESPN SportsCentury in September, 1999.

## Obituaries

**Robert Hanback '94BA/H&S**, very much alive, called to tell us we mistakenly reported his death in the last issue. We apologize for the error.

## 1930s

**Eunice (Bryer) Spivey '38MSW** December 21, 1992.

**Roger Grant Jr. MSW** August 12, 1999, at 86, in Charlottesville, VA.

## In Memory

**"You go into it thinking you can make a difference."**

Paul W. Keve '47MSW, who died October 21 at 86 after a lengthy illness, was professor emeritus of VCU's Department of Criminal Justice. Looking back on a long career in the field, Keve once said, "You go into it thinking you can make a difference. It's a stimulating, fascinating experience."

One of Virginia's first parole and probation officers in the early 1940s, he was frank about how he viewed prisons-as an "artificial, distorted, and degrading cultural system. Yet we don't seem to know how to get along without them." So Keve devoted his career to changing the system. He wrote ten books, including *The History of Corrections in Virginia* and *Prison Life and Human Worth*, and numerous articles for professional journals.

Perhaps most proud of what he called a "phenomenally effective" program for delinquent boys he started in St. Louis, Keve believed "the trouble with ordinary detention is that the kid begins to get used to lock-up and thinks of himself as that kind of person." The program transformed detention officers into caseworkers for four or five kids instead of the usual dozens, and it turned out that "this intense attention-which, at bottom, is what kids in trouble crave-works."

Commissioner of Corrections for Minnesota and director of Adult Corrections in Delaware, he served as a consultant to the Virginia Department of Corrections from 1977-1983. He taught at VCU from 1977 until 1983.



DUSTY BOUTWELL

## 1940s

**\*Mary (Pearsall) Irvin '40/H&S**  
February 27, 2000. She was an active member of several organizations in the Richmond area including the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Council.

**Paul Keve '47MSW** October 21, 1999, at 86, in Richmond. He was an administrator, writer, and professor. He was a criminal justice expert and one of the first probation and parole officers in Virginia.

**Jimmie (Wells) King '46BS '51MSW**  
November 25, 1999, at 74 after a long lung illness. She was a professional social worker in Richmond. She was married to John King '49MSW.

**Betty Peters Moorman '44BSW**  
February 24, 1999.

**Ramsay (Richardson) Smith '46MS/H&S** September 3, 1999, after a long illness.

**Conrad Wash Sr. '49BS/A** February 22, 2000, at 76, in Richmond. He was a U.S. Army Veteran of WWII, an accomplished professional musician and former owner of Virginia Office Equipment Co. He was a descendent of both Harrison presidents of the United States.

**Timothy Whitehead '48BFA '49MFA** '63MSW June 27, 1999, in Richmond. He was a distinguished artist and mentor of other artists, an educator, a poet and a pas-

sionate champion and defender of the creative human spirit. In 1981, he retired as chief clinical social worker from MCV Hospitals. Timothy's work appeared at the Main Art Gallery of Richmond in January, 2000. Proceeds from the sale of his work will go to Christian Solidarity Worldwide U.S.A. to buy people out of slavery in the Sudan.

## 1950s

**Frank Akers '56BFA.**

**Carol (Folts) Barnett '57BFA**  
November 1, 1999, in a car accident.

**Donald Beagle '57BA/H&S** January 16, 2000. He was a disc jockey at WOL in Washington and night and weekend supervisor at WRC, Washington. For 13 years he was Dandy Beagle of Dandy Beagle and Sooper Dog, Richmond's highest rated television program of all time on WTVR. He co-chaired Carnivals for Dystrophy with Jerry Lewis. He was program director for WRVA radio and information officer for the Virginia Department of Health. He was inducted into the Richmond Broadcasters Hall of Fame in May, 1999. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1948-54.

**Imogene (Murray) Boemanns '56BS/N** May 16, 1999, at 92.

**Helen (Connell) Boling '56BS/H&S**  
January 15, 2000, at 88, in Columbia, SC.

**Dorothy (Simpson) Bonyata '54BFA**  
January 25, 1999.

**William Johnson '51C/A** August 21, 1999 after a long illness. He served in the 18th Bomb Squadron of the 8th Air Force from 1942-45. He was a retired Divisional Vice President and Regional Director of Stores for the Richmond and Western Divisions of Miller and Rhoads. He served on several community boards and he was an avid golfer.

**Caroline (Ganzert) Lund '54BS/E**  
December 19, 1999, at 66, in Richmond. She taught in Henrico County Schools for 40 years.

**Irwin Miller '55C/B** February 24, 2000.

**Audrey (Frazier) Millner '56BS/B**  
March 28, 1999. She was an economic developer for Pittsylvania Economic Development Organization.

**Fredda (Hoffeditz) Smith '59BS/AH**  
June 26, 1999. She was an occupational therapist in the Washington, DC and Maryland area, and a prize-winning artist.

## 1960s

**Virginia Churn '65BS/MC** in  
Richmond, April 2, 2000, at 58 after a long battle with lung cancer. She was an award-

winning writer for the Richmond Times-Dispatch, writing about real estate since 1971. Virginia received a lifetime achievement award from the Virginia Association of Realtors and the Virginia Housing Development Authority in February, 2000. She was also a charter member of the MCV Hospitals Auxiliary.

**Jacob Cohen '66BS/B** December 17, 1999.

**George Connelly Jr. '64** Decem-ber 22, 1999, at 57.

**Robert Deverick III '69BS**  
'79MS/H&S February 4, 2000, in Colonial Heights, VA. He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam conflict and a sociology professor at John Tyler Community College.

**Robert Graham Jr. '69MED** July 30, 1999, at 85. He served in WWII in the South Pacific, Philippines, and Japan. He retired from the army in 1968 as a colonel. He worked for the Virginia Council for Higher Education as review and approval administrator until 1976.

**Terri (Schuman) Hirsch '69BSW**  
'86MED November 14, 1999, at 52, after a long illness. She founded Canterbury Community Nursery School in 1977 where she was a teacher and executive director until 1998. She was the primary department coordinator of Temple Beth El

## VCUAA LIFE MEMBERS *Joined August 16, 1999– June 4, 2000*

Mrs. Jane (Stanley) Adams  
Ms. Virginia (Hughes) Anderson  
Mrs. Lillie (Hinton) Arnaout  
Mr. Elias A. Arvanitis  
Mrs. Hannah (Rose) Aurbach  
Mrs. Gayle M. Barber  
Mr. Robert R. Barber Jr.  
Mr. Andrew J. Barbour  
Dr. Martha Beeman  
Ms. Jane (Bekenstein) Blank  
Mr. Jon L. Boisclair  
Ms. Patricia G. W. Bolander  
Mr. G. Thomas Bondurant  
Mr. Charles A. Boone  
Mrs. Nancy (Johnson) Bounds  
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Mrs. Patricia (Vint) Bryant  
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Ms. Mary-Catherine Calvert  
Mr. Roger E. Carden  
Mr. James S. Carpenter  
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Ms. Susan V. Cicone  
Ms. Sharyl L. Cline  
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Dr. Martha C. Coffield  
Mrs. Margaret B. Connors  
Mr. Stephen C. Covert

Mr. Jeffrey G. Currie  
Mrs. Mary Anne (Snyder) Dazey  
Mr. Brian S. Denby  
Mrs. Suzan G. Denby  
Mr. Christopher S. Derosier  
Major Michael Dillard  
Mrs. Karyn Smith Dingleline  
Mr. Lynn A. Doss  
Ms. Shirley T. Downs  
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Mrs. Robin (Wilhelm) Jenkins  
Mr. Steve M. Jenkins  
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Dr. Cheryl (Corona) Magill  
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Mr. John M. Pitzer Jr.  
Mr. Jerry Pugh  
Dr. Mary A. Pugh  
Mrs. Patricia (Marian) Rich  
Ms. Susan (Johnson) Robertson  
Mrs. Virginia G. Robinson  
Mr. Jason C. Rooke  
Mrs. Theresa (Ellis) Rygiel  
Mr. Troy A. Salley  
Mrs. Jennifer Treibley Sarvay  
Mr. John F. Sarvay  
Mr. Raynor Scheine  
Mr. Carl C. Schluter  
Mrs. Elizabeth (Howard) Schmidt  
Ms. Marsha (Stroh) Shuler  
Mr. David H. Smalley  
Mrs. Lillian Baber Smalley



Religious School. Terri was a founding faculty member of a new University of Virginia Continuing Education professional program for nannies, preschool teachers and child-care providers.

**Marvin Lindsey** '68BS/MC February 14, 2000, in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii.

**Linwood Lockhart** '60BS/MC October 24, 1999, in Richmond, at 66. He was president of Lin Lockhart Advertising Agency. He served in the Army and was a private pilot.

**Marvin Phelps** '65BS/B October 23, 1999, at 58, in Richmond. He was a self-employed CPA.

**Carrol (Andrews) Roberson** '60/SW December 15, 1999, at 62, in Richmond.

## 1970s

**Steven Altizer** '72/A February 21, 2000, at 46, in Richmond. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force.

**Katherine Beasley** '72BS '77MED February 16, 2000, at 50. She was a long time employee of Bell Atlantic and a Sunday school teacher of 30 years.

**Louise Brock** '74MED February 26, 2000, at 79. She was the retired math department chair of Douglas Freeman High School in Richmond. She taught there for 21 years.

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Ms. Barbara R. Souders  
Ms. Tricia L. Spinner  
Mrs. Margaret Solari Stebbins  
Ms. Nancy L. Stevenson  
Mrs. Fiona Marissa Strohecker  
Mr. Keith H. Strohecker  
Mr. Steven O. Suessmann  
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Mr. Stuart W. Taylor  
Dr. Jodi L. Teitelman  
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Dr. James R. Yeakel  
Ms. Elizabeth A. Yevich  
\*Mrs. Olinda F. Young  
Mr. David H. Zimmerman

\* denotes AAAC Life Member

**Joseph Cartledge** '79BS/H&S November 16, 1999, in Atlanta, at 43. He was a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Phi Delta Chapter.

**Katherine Cephas** '79MED January 28, 2000, at 66. She was a retired educator and administrator for the Richmond City Public Schools.

**Panchita Cline** '71BS/H&S February 6, 2000, at 84, in Chester, VA. She and her husband, Custis Cline operated Home Equipment Co., a combined Exxon Gas Station and G.E. Appliance Store in Chester for 35 years. They had six children. Panchita was also a member of the John Rolfe Players, a local community theater group.

**Anne Friend** '77MED November 3, 1999. She was a retired teacher of elementary education and the talented and gifted program. She was a member of the Commonwealth D.A.R. and the Tuckahoe Women's Club.

**Mark Fuller** '72BFA February 2, 2000, at 51. He was vice president and executive creative director for Mumford Marketing Communications in Richmond. Mark won gold medals in the New York Art Directors annual show, silver medals in The One Show and best-in-show awards in Advertising Club of Richmond competition. He also worked at several other firms in Richmond and Chicago.

**James Garland** '77BS/B January 6, 1999.

**Elias Gonzales** '79BS/H&S November 26, 1999, at 53. He worked at the Barber Veterinary Supply Co. He was a Vietnam veteran.

**Robert Hauser** '72BS/B January 3, 2000, at 50. He was retired from the Virginia Department of Transportation.

**Victor Indrisano** '75MS '78PhD/H&S October 5, 1994.

**Ralph Johnson** '76MED May 19, 1999.

**Edwin Legg** '70BS/E August 10, 1999.

**Karen (Bales) Lewis** '79MED December 17, 1999.

**Barbara McGhee** '72BS/H&S June 25, 1999, at 50. She was public affairs officer for the Social Security Administration in Richmond and active in the Arthritis Foundation.

**Joseph Nicholas** '72AS/En December 31, 1999, at 53. He worked for the Department of Transportation and was a Deacon for Sandston Baptist Church. He was Master and Past District Deputy Grandmaster of Sandston Masonic Lodge #216 AF & AM. Joseph was an Eagle Scout, veteran of the U.S. Air Force, and retired from the Air National Guard.

**Janie Quarles** '79MED January 6, 2000.

**\*Michele Reichelt** '79BS/H&S May 13, 1999, at 42. She received her MBA from Averett College in May, 1993. She was a retired GM-14 Contract Officer & Supervisor for the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization at the Department of Defense. She was a member of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees (NARFE).

**Richard Scheele** '73BS/E November 3, 1999, in Mechanicsville, VA. He was a

teacher at J.R. Tucker High School. He was also Scout Master of Boy Scout Troop 535 and president of the Lee Davis High School Band Boosters.

## 1980s

**Marjorie Dulancy Bishop** '81MED November 1, 1999, at 64.

**George Gering** '86BA/H&S April 7, 1999. He was a special agent for the Drug Enforcement Administration. He was also a commissioned officer for the U.S. Marine Corps and worked for PRC.

**Matthew Johnson** '89BS/B '91MBA July 10, 1999, at 36. He was the Director of Scan Verification for Retail Data Services.

**Catherine (Rexrode) Koren** '81MSW August 28, 1999, at 50.

**Margaret Petrie** '87MED January 26, 2000.

**Elena (Taylor) Robertson** '82MSW June 12, 1999, at 74. She was a retired executive secretary and director of social services for the Memorial Hospital of Martinsville and Henry County. She performed home health social work and home care for the Martinsville Dialysis Center.

**Donna Sexton** '84BS/B August 15, 1996.

## 1990s

**\*Jane Adams** '90MA September 22, 1999, after a long illness, at 67. She was active in several organizations in and around Hanover, NH where she lived.

**Victoria Katen** '94BFA August 13, 1999, at 50, in Blacksburg, VA. She was an artist and an educator. She taught at Ferrum College, Virginia Tech, Mary

Washington College, and the University of Virginia. She was a member of the Virginia Sculptors Group and a founder of the Virginia Sculptors Association.

**Scott Riddick** '94MED September 2, 1999, at 33. He taught anatomy and physiology in Springer, NM. He was an avid trail hiker and music lover.

**Christopher Smith** '95BA/H&S September 2, 1999, after a long illness.

**Erica Washington** '97BS/H&S September, 1999, at 24 in a car accident.

## Friends of VCU

**Cecilia "CeCe" Bullard** October 2, 1999, at 53, in Richmond. Cecilia was an art critic and columnist for the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* and wrote for *Style & Decor*. She taught art history at VCU for several years until 1972, and she was also a founding member of the MCV Hospitairns House. Cecilia also operated the Richmond Saddlery.

**Phyllis Coleman** March 3, 2000, in Roanoke, at 82. She was an active community leader. She also was an extensive ballroom dancer, accomplished artist, intellectual, and world traveler. Phyllis set up the Carolyn Coleman Stone Memorial Scholarship for MCV and VCU in honor of her daughter, Carolyn (Coleman) Stone '65BS/P.

**Esther (Ballentine) Reilly SW** November 15, 1999, at 65. She was a retired social worker from Jewish Family Services, the Virginia Department of Social Services and the Mental Health Department.

## In Memory

### Friend and Mentor

Dr. John "Jack" G. Corazzini, director of VCU's Counseling Services since 1980 and graduate-level teacher in the Departments of Psychology and Psychiatry, died September 23 after complications from heart surgery. He was nationally recognized for his work helping parents and their children prepare for college and adjust to changes after students enrolled. "Jack was passionate about the importance of counseling in helping students complete their academic studies with success," said Dr. Henry Rhone, vice provost for student affairs. Corazzini's research focused on grief and bereavement.

Rhone continues, "he provided extraordinary leadership for University Counseling Services. Jack worked hard at making his counseling staff reach out to students, rather than waiting for them to come to the center. I miss him as a friend and a colleague." Thanks to Corazzini's leadership, VCU Counseling Services is nationally known for its work in training doctoral candidates in psychology and psychiatry.

Clinical Social Worker Kristi Vera said Corazzini was "always willing to share his heart and knowledge. He helped students survive with life skills."

Corazzini served on the editorial board of the *Journal of Counseling Psychology* and was a member of the Virginia Psychological Association, the Virginia Academy of Clinical Psychologists and the Virginia Board of Psychology. He also was on the advisory board of Cancer Rehabilitation and Continuing Care at VCU's Medical College of Virginia Hospitals.

The family requests that memorial donations be made for Neuromuscular Research at MCV Hospitals, MCV Foundation, P.O. Box 980234, Richmond, VA 23298-0234.



# WHAT'S NEW?

Shafer Court Connections welcomes updates on marriages, family additions, job changes, relocations, promotions—whatever is newsworthy. Help us keep track of you by completing and returning this form. Recent newspaper clippings and photographs are also appreciated. Please mail to **VCU Alumni Activities, 924 West Franklin Street, P. O. Box 843044, Richmond, Virginia 23284-3044.**

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NEWS

## JOIN US!

### I/We are enclosing

— \$25 individual membership  
VCU Alumni Association

— \$40 couple membership  
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**African American  
Alumni Council** (includes  
VCUAA membership)

— \$30 individual AAAC  
membership

— \$40 couple AAAC  
membership

or think big\*

— \$325 individual one  
payment Life Membership  
— \$425 couple one payment  
Life Membership

— \$75yr, 5 payments/\$375  
total individual Life  
Membership

— \$95yr, 5 payments/\$475  
total couple Life  
Membership

— \$175 individual Senior Life  
Membership (alumni over 55)  
— \$225 couple Senior Life  
Membership (alumni over 55)

\*I (We) wish also to be Life  
Members of African  
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(included in any life  
membership fees)

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### Key To Abbreviations

Alumni are identified by year  
degree/school

#### Schools

A Arts

AH Allied Health Professions  
(CLS) Clinical Laboratory Sciences  
(RC) Rehabilitation Counseling

B Business

CPP Center for Public Policy

D Dentistry

E Education

En Engineering

H&S Humanities and Sciences

M-BH Medicine-Basic Health Sciences

MC Mass Communications

N Nursing

NTS Nontraditional Studies/  
University Outreach

P Pharmacy

SW Social Work

#### Degrees

AS Associate's Degree

C Certificate

BGS Bachelor of General Studies

BIS Bachelor of Interdisciplinary  
Studies

BFA, MFA Bachelor, Master of Fine Art

BSW, MSW Bachelor, Master of Social  
Work

BM, MM, MME Bachelor, Master of  
Music, Master of Music Education

M, DPA Master, Doctor of Public  
Administration

MAE Master of Art Education

MBA Master of Business  
Administration

MD Doctor of Medicine

MEd Master of Education

MIS Master of Interdisciplinary Studies

MPA, DPA Master, Doctor of Public  
Administration

MT Five-year Teacher Education  
program includes a BA or BS/H&S  
and a Master of Teaching.

MURP Master of Urban and Regional  
Planning

PhD Doctor of Philosophy

**Important Note:** If this magazine is addressed to an alumnus who no longer lives at the address provided on the address label, please advise us so that we can correct our records. If you know the person's correct address, we would appreciate that information. Also, if a husband and wife are receiving more than one copy of the magazine, we would like to know so that we can avoid duplicate mailings. Please provide the names of both spouses and the wife's name at graduation.

☐ I am interested in sponsoring a student extern. Please send an information form.

# 1000 Alumni Stars

Like a tropical rainforest, VCU's nine schools, College of Humanities and Sciences, and Non-Traditional Studies program make up a richly diverse ecology. Each of our Alumni Stars makes an essential contribution to the world—not only in medicine, nursing, pharmacy or business, but in the arts and education. To live, we need all of you.

## Nontraditional Studies Program Alice Schreiner '97BGS/NTS '98MED

For 50 years, Schreiner has served the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. in every role from troop leader, to master trainer, director of outdoor programs for Virginia to representing U.S. Girl Scouts at an international trainers conference in India.

A life-long learner, she returned to school at 71 to finish two degrees,



graduating magna cum laude. Alice is also a volunteer trainer and standards visitor for the American Camping Association and a First Aid and CPR instructor for the Red Cross.

*"It just never occurred to me that I couldn't learn."*

## School of Medicine Jeffery Taubenberger '86MD '87PhD

Chief of the Division of Molecular Pathology at the Armed Forces Institute of



Pathology. Some of Taubenberger's most significant research was toward characterizing the virus that caused the 1918 influenza outbreak, which killed 40 million people worldwide.

*"I feel I have been able to actually do what I dreamed of while in school, to combine basic research and clinical medicine in an integrated way."*

## School of Nursing Patricia Rowell '70BS/H&S '74BS/N '90PhD/AH

Senior Policy Fellow with the Department of Nursing Practice of the American Nurses Association, Rowell leads



the ANA's national initiative on safety and quality of patient care. She is a member of President Clinton's Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry.

*"It's really about how organizations impact on people."*

## School of Education Susan Noble '94BA/H&S '96MT

Noble teaches first graders at Gayton Elementary School in Henrico County.



Governor James Gilmore appointed her to the Virginia State Board of Education, where she was involved in developing the State's new Standards of Learning.

*"Teaching is an immensely gratifying, especially teaching first grade. My students make amazing gains academically and socially in that one year."*

## School of Dentistry Ralph Anderson '70DDS '75Certificate in Orthodontics

In 1965, Anderson was only the third African-American to enroll at the MCV School of Dentistry. Now a successful orthodontist with three Richmond offices, he has taught orthodontics in the School of Dentistry since 1976.



He was named a Fellow in the American College of Dentistry in 1998.

*"I enjoyed being here. It's a unique place. And it's the place I wanted to be."*

## School of Business Thomas Snead Jr. '76BS Accounting

President and CEO of Trigon Blue Cross Blue Shield, Snead joined the company in 1985, was elected president and COO in



1997, and assumed his present position in 1999. He was a major force in taking Trigon public, a complex and demanding move that gave the organization new capital and energy.

*"Running a large company is all about communicating."*

## School of Social Work Cathy Pond '76 BSW '80MSW

Executive Director of the Richmond



YWCA, manages child care programs, the shelter for battered women, crisis intervention services, and counseling for survivors of sexual assault.

*"I received the core values that guide me today from VCU. Commitment to social justice, high ethical standards and being an agent of change."*

## School of Allied Health Professions John Nagelhout, CRNA, Ph.D.

'75Post-Certificate Nurse Anesthesia  
Director of the School of Anesthesia at Kaiser Permanente, California. A leading



researcher on anesthetic drugs, Nagelhout co-authored the major textbook in nurse anesthesia, and has been associate editor of the AANA Journal since 1992.

*"The people I worked with at the University were very professional and down to earth. They knew their business."*

## School of the Arts Melissa McElhatton '92BA Fashion Merchandizing

Senior market editor at *Mademoiselle* magazine, scouting fashion on both coasts for new designers and trends. McElhatton's first break was a feature *Sassy* magazine ran on the Eye, a fashion magazine Melissa started as a student at VCU. She parlayed



the connection into an internship at *Sassy*, which led to an internship and then a job as fashion market assistant at *Harper's Bazaar*. Then fashion market editor with *Mademoiselle*.

*"The VCU faculty made me think nothing was impossible."*

## School of Pharmacy Carl Emswiler Jr. '62BS

Carl Emswiler Jr. began with a clinically oriented office practice based on a close relationship with his patients. He was a pioneer in expanding the contents and formats of patient medication profiles. He has changed pharmacy's emphasis toward patient-focused community pharmacy and a



strong role in primary health care.

Emswiler received the 1999 Pennington Honor Medal, the highest award of the American Pharmaceutical Association.

*"My approach has always been to simply care for the patient."*

## College of Humanities and Sciences Richard Robertson '67BS

Dick is president of Warner Brothers Domestic Television Distribution selling major hit shows like *Friends*, *ER*, *Drew Carey* and *Rosie O'Donnell*.

As chair of VCU's successful Partner's drive for Progress campaign, he launched the drive



by announcing his million-dollar planned gift. In the last year of the campaign, he made a second major gift naming the Richard T. Robertson Alumni House.

*"Working while attending classes connected theory with real world experience, and gave me a big head start in the business world."*

## School of Basic Health Sciences- School of Medicine Susan Carlton '82Ph.D.

Professor of Anatomy and Neurosciences and a member of the Menne Biomedical Institute at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. An internationally prominent researcher on pain, Carlton has spoken to dozens of national and



international seminars and symposia and published widely.

Carlton's model of nerve injury has contributed to new drug development for pain from nerve injury.

*"My approach to running a successful lab is creating a team where each person is aware that their activities are important in the big picture."*



# Spanning the decades—Spanning the disciplines—Spanning the campuses—



**Marc Ferrera '99 BS Biology/H&S**  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
First-year student in School of Medicine,  
MCV Campus of VCU  
Member of VCU Alumni Association

*Marc is going to medical school on a Navy scholarship. Besides their scientific bent, Lucille and Marc have the Philippines in common—Marc's mother is Filipino. "I like helping people. My mom is a nurse, and medicine is a field where there's always something more to learn. I like that challenge." His plans (this week) are to go into internal medicine, "maybe gastroenterology."*

**Lucille Anderson Baber '39 BS Med Tech**  
Richmond Professional Institute  
Member of MCV Alumni Association.

*"Andy" did industrial research for Philip Morris, where she met her husband, Clinton Baber. She has "volunteered all my life." While living in Venezuela and the Philippines, she raised funds with the American Association of University Women to send young women to U.S. graduate schools, helped set up schools for blind and deaf children, and taught herself.*

*Photo by Anne Lawver '76BFA*

## VCUunity Join the VCU Alumni Association!

To join your fellow alumni, see page 40; call (804) **VCU-ALUM** (828-2586); or check website at [www.alumni.vcu.edu](http://www.alumni.vcu.edu)

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